



SCA NEWSLETTER & ANNUAL REPORT

FROM THE SOCIETY FOR CHURCH ARCHAEOLOGY

SUMMER 2011

ISSUE NO. 12

Foreword from the Chair

AS THIS IS the first Newsletter foreword I have been asked to write, I hope you will forgive me if I open with a few words about church archaeology in general, and about our society in particular.

I have just returned my census form, and the 2011 census results will probably indicate that attendance at places of worship is in overall decline, even if numbers are steady (or rising) amongst some religions and denominations. Yet interest in church archaeology has never been stronger, and its popularity is rising. Across the heritage sector, where public interest and participation is growing rapidly, stimulated no doubt by increasing leisure-time and whole TV channels devoted to heritage programming, individuals and groups are exploring their local places of worship with an enthusiasm not seen since the charabanc tours of a century ago. In my part of the world (Lincolnshire), for example, we must have had at least half-a-dozen

organised, guided, and booked-out 'church-crawls' in the past year. Furthermore, the diocese itself has recognised that church heritage is an important (perhaps the most important) tool in their hands when engaging the church with the local community more widely. It seems, then, that as many people might be interested in church heritage as attend regularly for worship. Much depends on how faith communities respond to this apparent reality. Although sometimes they may be tempted to turn their backs on this wider interest – focussing doggedly on their own activities and making their churches difficult to access – more often, in my experience, church communities recruit the history and architecture of their church to serve its wider mission within the community. Across Europe, it seems to me, church communities are embracing the latter approach; they are making their churches accessible, providing information, and are both facilitating explorations of their churches by others and undertaking such studies themselves. This is where

the Society for Church Archaeology comes in. Having evolved from the churches network of the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) fifteen years ago, it has now established a clear role for itself as a forum for reporting and discussing the results of this increasing number of explorations, both below and above ground. Our Journal has now made up most of the deficit that developed first a decade ago, and is becoming increasingly ambitious in its reporting of new work, whilst the annual conference is going from strength to strength, as it visits cathedral towns and their neighbourhoods to see such new work in action.

In no small part this encouraging position is the achievement of my predecessor as Chair, Dr Margaret Faull, who retired at September's AGM after a period of some nine years. Margaret took over at a difficult moment in the history of the Society, when the Journal was considerably in arrears, when the Conference was floundering, and when the Society itself was under attack from fraudsters.

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THE SOCIETY FOR Church Archaeology is governed by its Constitution, formally adopted by the Society on 23rd March 1996.

The Society was formed to achieve the advancement of public education by promoting the study, conservation and preservation of churches and

other places of worship and associated monuments in all their other aspects.

Membership at 31st Dec 2010 was 281, of which 25 were Institutions. Subscriptions are available through the Society website, or through applications to Sarah Botfield, Membership Secretary.

The Trustees during 2010 were:

President:	Dr Richard Gem
Chair:	Dr Margaret Faull (Jan – Sept) Dr David Stocker (Sept – Dec)
Vice-Chair:	Dr Jackie Hall
Hon. Secretary:	Kevin Booth
Membership Secretary:	Sarah Botfield
Treasurer:	Allie Nickell
Editors:	Evelyn Baker; David Baker
Assistant Editor:	Dr Jackie Hall
Book Reviews Editor:	Duncan Sayer (to October)
Publications Officer:	Dr Kristjan Ahronson
Charities Commission:	Dr Margaret Faull (Jan – Sept)
Correspondent:	Kevin Booth (Sept – Dec)
Publicity Officer:	Michael Shapland
Website Officer:	Dr Aleksandra McClain
Conference Secretary:	Dr David Stocker

The postal address for the Charity is: c/o Council for British Archaeology, St Mary's House, 66 Bootham, York, YO30 7BZ.

The Society for Church Archaeology is an unincorporated association and has been registered with the Charity Commission under no: 1056194.

Dr Geoff Egan, Archaeological Finds Expert



Oct 1951 – Dec 2010

MANY OF YOU will have read about the sad and premature death of Dr Geoff Egan on Christmas Eve, 2010. Geoff's knowledge of medieval and post-medieval small finds was unparalleled, and the society was fortunate to hear him give a typically detailed and informative paper on monastic small finds at the SCA conference in September of last year.

Geoff mixed an encyclopaedic knowledge of artefacts with an insight into how the deposition of material could tell stories of changing fashion,

economy and daily life. His impressive series of small finds reference works are a legacy which archaeologists will draw on for decades to come, and both his knowledge and his generosity will be sorely missed.

Foreword from the Chair

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It is an enormous tribute to her leadership and hard-work that the Society has entered what we hope is a stretch of calmer water, with a healthy bank balance and a rising membership.

Other changes on the Council this year have included Michael Shapland's willingness to take over the role of Conference Organiser (though we expect that the onerous task of managing conferences will be shared more equitably in future) and the retirement of Duncan Sayer as reviews editor, after six years' sterling service. We would all like to wish Duncan well in his new post

at the University of Central Lancashire. The conference he has been planning on the early medieval period has been postponed, but we are still hopeful that it will take place soon. Our 2010 conference, based in the inspiring and appropriate surroundings of the Bar Convent in York and looking in detail at the material remains of the Dissolution of Yorkshire monasteries, was a sell-out event. The credit for that should go to our trusty secretary, Kevin Booth (rather than to the then Conference Organiser, who welcomed the opportunity to take a back-seat!) Our 2011 conference will be based in and around Chichester, a beautiful part of the country, and will look at the relationships between churches and the sea. Information and a booking form for this exciting event are being distributed with this newsletter, and we hope to welcome as many members as possible. It's an interesting theme and we will be visiting churches, and parts of the Cathedral, that are not always easily accessible in the company of renowned experts. Early booking is certainly advisable.

Clearly the Society should seek to capitalise on its strengths – on the Journal and the annual conference – and they must represent important priorities for the coming year. But finally, in my first Newsletter foreword, I would like to suggest another goal for the Society: we should be working more closely with several other bodies in the church heritage field. For example, in October of last year we took the opportunity to join with the Council for British Archaeology to make their day school on the management of ruined churches such a success, and we collaborated with English Heritage at our own conference in York. In the same spirit, I would also like to see closer liaison between SCA and the Association of Diocesan and Cathedral Archaeologists, as our interests are so closely aligned. The Councils of both bodies have already agreed to collaborate more closely in future, including in the programme for the Chichester conference. I hope to see many of you there again.

David Stocker

CHURCHES & A CATHEDRAL BY THE SEA

**Chichester,
September 2–4, 2011**

THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE is to be held in the cathedral city of Chichester, an ancient urban centre once served by its own estuarine port, whose diocese not only covers wide tracts of Downland but also the coastal plain from Shoreham to Emsworth. Many of its seaside parish churches owe their origins to Anglo Saxon builders, and the earliest cathedral was built on the southern edge of the Selsey peninsula. Storms, coastal erosion and the Norman religious entrepreneurial spirit prompted the cathedral's re-siting in the last part of the eleventh century in the south western quadrant of the old city. Soaring above the Roman city walls, the cathedral spire is visible from many of Chichester harbour's sea reaches and from distant outlying regions of the surrounding plain – an active reminder of the cathedral's significance and power at the heart of its diocese.

To the south, the long Sussex shore is characterised by sand and shingle beaches to the east and peninsulas and salt marsh inlets to the west.

Churches in the parishes along this coastline have always catered to congregations of seafarers and longshoremen, but their medieval architecture and fabric also reveals the influence of cross-channel monastic ties. This September the conference will focus on these themes by examining the archaeology of the cathedral itself and then by expanding the topic to include its coastal parish hinterland and the wider phenomenon of the English coastal church. Aspects of these subjects will be illustrated over the weekend by a guided tour and fieldtrip.

On Friday, our keynote speaker Tim Tatton-Brown (Consultant Archaeologist to Salisbury Cathedral) will discuss the latest research into the origins and archaeology of the fabric of Chichester Cathedral and that of the remarkable Saxon church of Holy Trinity at nearby Bosham. We will be joined at this event by members from the Association of Diocesan and Cathedral Archaeologists (ADCA), who will be having their annual conference in Chichester that day. Saturday morning provides a lively programme of lectures inaugurated by Mark Taylor

(Diocesan Archaeologist of Chichester Cathedral), who will fit the cathedral into its historical and regional background. Other speakers include Joe Elders (ADCA), Joe Flatman (Institute of Archaeology, UCL), Nathalie Cohen (Thames Discovery Programme, Diocesan Archaeologist for Southwark Cathedral) and Allan Brodie (English Heritage) who will address a wide range of maritime topics from the churches of the Romney Marshes to the churches of 19th century seaside resorts. In the afternoon, after a guided tour of the cathedral by our resident experts, Julian Munby (Oxford Archaeology, ADCA) will wind up this part of the conference with his endnote lecture on the landscape of West Sussex coastal churches. We will then decamp to the Cathedral Cloisters for the SCA conference supper.

On Sunday, a guided fieldtrip to some of the churches spotlighted on Saturday includes a visit to Selsey and to Bosham, possibly the most picturesque church and harbour village in the south of England. The fieldtrip then ventures further afield and will examine two less famous,



but equally archaeologically fascinating churches on the Hampshire coast – St Thomas a Becket’s at Warblington and St Mary’s in Portchester Castle. The day will end back in Chichester with plenty of time for onward travel home.

Conference Venue & Chichester

The conference is being held at the Bishop Otter Campus of Chichester University. This

comprises a series of Victorian and modern buildings which includes the conference centre, accommodation facilities, the university art gallery and the college chapel. Bishop Otter is about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to the northwest of the city centre – a walking distance of about 10 minutes.

Chichester itself is an architectural delight. Planning restrictions first imposed in the 1960s prevented the wholesale rebuilding of the city and it not only retains its Roman street system, but also has a long and practically

uninterrupted circuit of Roman and medieval city walls. While it appears to be a largely Georgianised city, under many 18th century stucco or brick frontages there are much earlier timber framed dwellings.

Most of Chichester city centre is now pedestrianised, but for those who need to gain access by car, there are a number of car parks studded around the centre and buses run regularly from the outskirts to the Market Cross by the cathedral.

SOCIETY & COMMITTEE NEWS

Review of the Society's Work in 2010

THREE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS were held during 2010 (7th January, 26th May, and 12th October). The business of running the charity, preparing for the conference and production of the annual Newsletter and Journal were discussed and recorded. All members of the Executive Committee, the Membership Secretary and President of the Society are unpaid and donate their time to the Charity voluntarily.

The Society held its 2010 annual general meeting in York on 18th September. Twenty-five members of the Society were present, and the minutes of the 2009 AGM were accepted. The 2011 AGM will be held in Chichester on Saturday 3rd September. Formal notification of this will be sent to members in August along with the minutes from the 2010 AGM. There were no Trustees' actions to report during 2010.

Committee News

AS IS REPORTED elsewhere in the Newsletter, Margaret Faull stood down as Chair of the Executive Committee at the 2010 AGM, and she has been replaced by David Stocker. Duncan Sayer also resigned the role of Book Reviews Editor, but kindly ensured a series of reviews were in place for the forthcoming edition of the Journal. Duncan Wright has been co-opted onto the committee to carry out the Book Reviews role, and he will stand for formal election at this year's AGM. Michael Shapland came onto committee as Publicity Officer and has since taken on the additional role of Conference Coordinator. Finally, Kevin Booth has taken on the position of Charity Commission Correspondent from Margaret Faull.

About Duncan Wright

DUNCAN STUDIED FOR his undergraduate degree at the University of Exeter, during which he developed an interest in Anglo-Saxon



and medieval landscape archaeology. He then subsequently completed an MA in Medieval Archaeology at the University of York, culminating in excavation at the early medieval monastery at Tarbat, Scotland and a dissertation studying the historic landscape of the Vale of Pickering, Yorkshire. Following his masters research, Duncan spent a brief spell with EASE archaeology excavating sites in Westray, Orkney, after which he joined Wessex Archaeology as a heritage consultant.

In 2009, Duncan began a doctoral thesis funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, which focuses on the archaeology of settlements between the seventh and ninth centuries and the growth of ecclesiastical and royal power in this period, and explores how this increasingly

complex society expressed itself through material culture. Duncan also has a particular interest in the impact that development-led excavation can have in developing our understanding of the changing landscape of Anglo-Saxon and medieval England.

The Journal: Church Archaeology

VOLUME 12 OF the Society Journal was published in spring 2010. The volume, with three substantial articles and four shorter pieces, has been very well received and the quality of the publication does much to cement the reputation of the Society both within Britain and internationally. Maintaining this quality in the face of rising costs will be a challenge for a subscription based Society such as Church Archaeology. Our editorial team did fantastically well to negotiate significant grant aid for a number of the published papers.

Volume 13 of the Journal is currently with the printer Jeremy Mills, and will be published in June 2011. The Society also published its annual Newsletter in Summer 2010.

Research Grant

IN 2010, THE annual Church Archaeology Research Grant was awarded to Brent Fortenberry, a PhD student at Boston University. The grant of £1000 provided funding for the excavation of the grave of Sir Jacob Wheate (d.1783), Commander of HMS Cerberus, at St Peter's church in St George's Bermuda. While nearly 35% of the remains were truncated by a 20th century concrete support wall, the remainder of the skeleton was successfully excavated by a team of volunteer archaeologists from Boston University and the Bermuda National Trust.

Currently the remains are awaiting specialist analysis at the Bermuda National Trust Archaeology Laboratory in St George's. While the results of the analysis are still pending, the discovery and excavation of Sir Jacob Wheate has provided invaluable insight into 18th century burial practices on Bermuda, as well as the architectural phasing of St Peter's church. When completed the remains will be re-entombed in St Peter's

churtyard in an Anglican ceremony by members of the Royal Navy. This excavation is part of my larger dissertation project entitled: The Life of a Church and the Eventual Death of a State House: Public Space in St George's Bermuda which focuses on religious and state public practice in St George's, Bermuda's colonial capital from 1612 until 1815.

The 2011 grant has been awarded to Emma Wells, a PhD student at Durham University, for site visits key to her study of the role of synaesthesia in medieval pilgrimage. An update on her progress will be given in next year's newsletter.

Website News

THE NEWLY DESIGNED SCA website is now live! Please have a look at it at: <http://www.britarch.ac.uk/socchurcharchaeol> and let us know what you think.

Feel free to pass on any amendments or suggestions to: Aleks McClain at aleksm42@gmail.com.

2010 CONFERENCE

Documenting Destruction in Yorkshire: The Dispersal of Monastic Artefacts

LAST YEAR'S ANNUAL conference, held at the Bar Convent in York, re-visited one of the

main stays of English church archaeology: the 16th century dissolution of the monasteries. The conference focused on artefacts, asking what close study of the dispersal of material would reveal about the processes and politics of the Dissolution. The Bar Convent proved an excellent

and appropriate venue as an institution which itself had to fight political and cultural storms in the 17th and 18th centuries in order to survive.

The conference opened with a keynote address from Professor Richard Morris (University of Leeds). Prof. Morris looked for patterns in the disposal and dispersal of artefacts, considering who was responsible and what the driving forces had been. On Saturday morning, Dr Glyn Coppack presented an insight into the possessions of Carthusian monks at Mount Grace Priory, and investigated both archaeological and documentary evidence for how these possessions left the Priory at its closure, were recycled at its suppression, or were simply discarded. Ideas of a systematised transfer of possessions were developed by Dr Leslie Johansen, whose case study on the link between monastic structures and later historic estates and designed landscapes considered the importance of social context and local attitudes in the manner in which remains were incorporated into later estates.



Dr Pam Graves (Durham University) then looked at a single class of object, window glass, providing a fascinating insight into the archaeological patterning of excavated glass assemblages, including new research on material from Rievaulx Abbey, North Yorkshire. Rievaulx also formed the core of Susan Harrison's (English Heritage) excellent re-evaluation of archaeological evidence from the site.

In research carried out for the SCA conference Mrs Harrison demonstrated how the application of a new methodological approach to the early 20th century excavations at the Abbey have elucidated a great deal more information about the dissolution period than had hitherto been thought possible.

Rievaulx featured again as Dr Geoff Egan (British Museum) presented a catalogue of artefacts from the site drawing comparisons with the archaeological record from monastic sites nationally.

Dr Egan examined certain classes of material, such as glass, writing implements, and pieces with religious significance, which appear to be recurrent across the sites of religious houses. English Heritage kindly arranged for many of Geoff's example artefacts to be at the venue so that delegates could study the evidence at first hand. Finally, Andrew Davison (English Heritage) led an entertaining and extremely informative evening lecture on the importance of brewing for monastic foundations, looking at evidence for its extent, technology and processes. With appetites suitably whetted, delegates then enjoyed an excellent conference dinner in the Bar Convent atrium.

On Saturday afternoon, delegates enjoyed a tour of the new medieval galleries at the Yorkshire Museum with the head curator, Andrew Morrison. In the museum grounds, Stuart Harrison described the dispersal of material from St Mary's Abbey across a number of

centuries, and David Stocker led a tour of the priory church of Holy Trinity, Micklegate, looking at surviving architectural evidence for the monastic foundation.

Completing this very full programme were a series of visits forming the Sunday excursion. At Byland and Rievaulx Abbeys, Stuart Harrison and Glyn Coppack illustrated the process of destruction through an analysis of the architectural evidence, enhanced through the artefacts on display in both site museums. Finally, delegates gained rare access to the English Heritage store in Helmsley to view some of northern England's finest monastic collections.

SCA is very grateful to all speakers, to English Heritage for its support in staging the event, and to the Yorkshire Museum, Holy Trinity Micklegate and the Bar Convent. The conference was informative but informal, promoting a great deal of discussion amongst delegates, and it proved a great success.

SOCIETY ACCOUNTS

FINANCIAL INFORMATION	2010	2009
OPENING BALANCE (Carried Forward from Previous Years' Accounts)	£32,429.69	£32,552.99

INCOME		
Membership Subscriptions for this Year	£5,330.00	£5,310.00
Donations, Sales & Miscellaneous Income	£310.00	£300.00
Conference Income	£3,975.00	£3,740.00
Bank Interest	--	--
Coif Account Interest	£124.11	£290.05
Publication Grants	£1,997.30	--
TOTAL	£11,736.41	£9,640.05

EXPENDITURE		
Stationery, Postage & Photocopying	--	£506.85
Executive Meetings & Travel	--	£275.40
Journal/Newsletter Publications	£6,294.17	£5,084.57
Grants (Including Bank Charge)	£1,009.00	£1,282.00
2009 Conference Expenditure	£2,993.00	--
2010 Conference Expenditure	£3,592.17	£1,195.00
Insurances	£152.60	£135.53
CBA Membership, Auditor & Misc	£300.00	£284.00
TOTAL	£14,340.94	£8,763.35

BALANCE OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	(£2,604.53)	£876.70
CLOSING BALANCE TAKEN FORWARD	£29,825.16	£32,429.69

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Report on the Financial Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2010

THE SOCIETY FOR Church Archaeology had no assets, other than those listed in the accounts, and/or liabilities during the financial year beginning on 1st January 2010 and ending on 31st December 2010. The following statement represents the Society's accounts for its thirteenth year of operation. The finances are set out in two ways: as a record of overall income and expenditure under a series of sub-headings, and as a balance sheet to 31st December 2010. The accounts for 2009 (figures in the right-hand column) have been included for comparative purposes.

The Society retains three bank accounts, comprising one current account and two deposit accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31st 2010	
Balance on date	£29,825.16
Represented by:	
Current account	£5,708.84
Deposit accounts	£24,116.32
TOTAL	£29,825.16

In 2005, £20,000 of the balance in the current account was set-aside in separate charity deposit account as a Reserve.

The Society's income rose from £9,640.05 in 2009 to £11,736.41 in 2010, with increases in membership subscriptions, a small rise in the conference takings and two grants towards Volume 13 of the Journal. Expenditure also rose, largely due to increased publication costs for the Journal and newsletter and expenses accrued by the 2009 Conference in Lincoln (which were known to be outstanding at the time of the last report); the 2010 Conference in York, however, made a small profit, and a significant part of the Journal costs were covered by the publication grants recorded above and others which are expected in 2011.

The Society made a small overall loss during the year of £876.70, but its overall financial position remains healthy.

Monumental Brass Society Study Day

4th June 2011

St George's Chapel, Windsor:

<http://www.mbs-brasses.co.uk/>

mbs-meetings.html

THE STUDY DAY will begin with a tour of St George's Chapel, and this will be followed by five lectures on the history and monuments of the chapel. The featured speakers this year are Clive Burgess and David Lewis, Jerome Bertram, Lesley Boatwright, Nicholas Rogers, and Tim Tatton-Brown. The cost for the day is Members: £35, Nonmembers: £50, Postgraduate/Undergraduate Students: £25. A full booking form and information are available from the MBS website.

The Conservation of the Cosmati Pavement, Westminster Abbey

Organized by the

Ecclesiological Society

30th June 2011

Westminster Abbey

<http://www.ecclsoc.org/>

THIS FAMOUS PAVEMENT was commissioned by Henry III to be a centerpiece of the re-built 13th century Abbey, and the conservation of the pavement is now in its final stages. The Head Conservator at Westminster Abbey, Vanessa Simeoni, will be giving us a talk on the work. Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. Meet at West Door at 18.30.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Followed by informal refreshments. Fee: £10 To book please email: visits@eccsoc.org.

Keyhole Archaeology

Part of the Festival of British Archaeology

16th–17th July 2011

St Mary's, Redgrave, Suffolk

<http://www.visitchurches.org.uk/Whatson>

AS PART OF the CBA Festival of Archaeology, participants will get to explore the burial vaults beneath the church using an endoscope and a mini video camera. Entry is free, from 11 AM to 4 PM each day. To find out more, contact Bob Hayward at bob.hayward@talk21.com

Deerhurst Priory in the Later Middle Ages

2011 Deerhurst Lecture

17th September 2011 7:30 PM

Deerhurst Church

<http://deerhurstfriends.co.uk/lectures-events/>

THE SPEAKER WILL be Dr Martin Heale, from the University of Liverpool. Tickets are £5 for adults, £3 for students, and can be purchased in advance or on the door. Please see the website for further information.

Ecclesiological Society Conference: The Interior of the Victorian Church

1st October 2011

<http://www.eccsoc.org/>

THE 2011 CONFERENCE will be held in the St Alban's Centre,

Baldwin Gardens, London, on the theme of Victorian church interiors. Further details will be available on the Society's website, or for further information, please email conference@eccsoc.org.

Church Monuments Society Excursion: Northern Suffolk

8th October 2011

Starting from Diss railway station

http://www.churchmonumentsociety.org/CMS_Events.html

THE TOUR BEGINS at 10:05 AM, and includes visits to St Mary, Redgrave, St Mary, Burgate, St Andrew, Wingfield, SS Peter & Paul, Hoxne, and St Mary, Brome. Lunch will be taken at Eye, and the tour will return you to Diss station at 5:00. Cost: £27.50 to CMS members, £32.50 non-members (excluding lunch). Booking details are available on the society's website.

Victorian Monuments

Church Monuments Society

One-day conference

12th November 2011

London

http://www.churchmonumentsociety.org/CMS_Events.html

http://www.churchmonumentsociety.org/CMS_Events.html

ON 12TH NOVEMBER the CMS will be holding a one-day conference devoted to the subject of Victorian monuments. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Sir George Gilbert

Scott, the best-known and most prolific architect of the Gothic revival and designer of several monuments, and 2012 marks the anniversary of A.W.N.

Pugin, who played the leading role in this great cultural shift that the conference celebrates. The event will take place in the Senate Room, Senate House, Malet Street, London. Booking information is available on the Church Monuments Society website.

Places of Worship in the British Isles, 1150–1350

Oxford Department for Continuing Education

6th–8th January 2012

Rewley House, Oxford

<http://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/>

THE TWO CENTURIES from the middle of the twelfth century saw great changes in the western church: its institutional and doctrinal position evolved into their mature medieval forms, while at the same time the mendicants challenged aspects of the new order. Simultaneously there were significant developments in architecture and in art particularly devotional imagery. This weekend provides an opportunity to explore the impact of the changes on the religious buildings of Britain, with a particular emphasis on their functional requirements. Fee: £110. For further information, please email ppdayweek@conted.ox.ac.uk.