

# SCA NEWSLETTER & ANNUAL REPORT

From the Society for Church Archaeology

Summer 2020

Issue No.21

## Letter from the Chair

It is with both pleasure, and some trepidation, that I write my first letter to you as the new chair of the SCA, having taken over from Brian Ayers at our St Albans meeting last October. Brian leaves some big shoes to fill. For a start, he is a formidable scholar, his recent book *The German Ocean. Medieval Europe Around the North Sea* has already become an established fixture on many a student's reading list. However, in what can sometimes be an aggressive and competitive field, Brian stands out as a decent down-to-earth individual, happy to chat to academic and enthusiast in equal measure. I think both qualities are important to the role of chair, and I hope that I do not fall too far short on either account. I would like to thank Brian whole-heartedly for all that he has contributed to the society.



*Dr Hugh Willmott  
BA Hons., MA, PhD  
(Dunelm), FSA, MCIfA*

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By way of introduction, for those of you who do not know me, I am a Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Sheffield, where I have worked for nearly twenty years. I currently sit on the council of the Royal Archaeological Institute and I am the archaeological advisor to the Diocese of Sheffield - for a small 'industrial' diocese it contains a surprising number of interesting and early churches! In recent years the main focus of my research has been on monastic sites, and I have directed excavations at Monk Bretton Priory and Thornton Abbey, as well as working on two Middle Saxon ecclesiastical sites at West Halton and Little Carlton in Lincolnshire. I have just completed a book on the Dissolution of the Monasteries, which by the time you read this should be in print but given it has taken me a decade to write I cannot complain if the publisher delays its release by a few weeks.

As I type this, I am sat at home in Yorkshire from where, like all of us, I have barely moved in the last four months. I do not want to dwell on the current situation unduly as we are all keenly aware of its impact both personally and more widely. However, it is inevitable that there have been implications for the society, which will last for some time to come. One of the most immediate of these was for our autumn conference in Salisbury. Because so much work had already gone into its organisation (my thanks to John Wand in particular), and as we had the beginnings of a rather impressive line-up and trip, we have decided to postpone it until 2021, rather cancel altogether, so I do hope as many of you can make it then.

The pandemic has encouraged us all to adopt new ways of doing things. Many grandparents who did not even own a 'smart' phone six months ago now keep in regular close contact with their loved ones through Zoom or Skype. Here at the university I am now teaching a full curriculum to students through a mixture of lectures recorded at my kitchen table, online chat rooms and message boards. It might seem a little strange saying this in a printed newsletter, but I think the value of face-to-face communication, albeit via a screen, has really been underlined recently. I have found students far more motivated to talk to me now by video appointment than they ever were to visit me in my office.

Of course, your committee is adapting to these times too. We recently had our first meeting via Zoom, and I think all involved were surprised how well and efficiently it went. It also had the added advantage of saving the society quite a considerable sum in train fares and other expenses, and I suspect when things get back to 'normal' it will be a practice we shall continue. Perhaps the highlight for me was discovering which of my committee colleagues was able to participate in the meeting whilst sat in a lush garden, shaded under a parasol and accompanied by an umbrellaed drink. I'll let you guess who that might be!

As we have had to postpone the conference, I am especially keen we provide alternative events for our membership. At the last committee meeting it was decided we should host our first online lecture, and I'm pleased to say that Carenza Lewis has agreed to deliver

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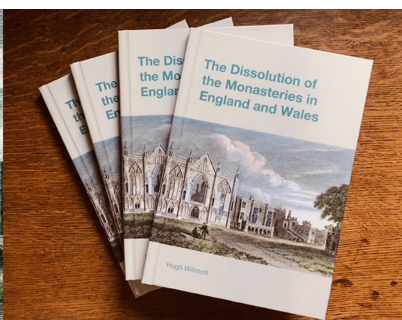
this on the topic of “Seigneurial Cemeteries” (more details can be found in this newsletter). Many of you may have seen the very successful Churches Conservation Trust’s lunchtime lecture series that is delivered via Facebook, and if the SCA online lecture proves equally popular amongst our membership I hope we too can make this a regular event.

In other news, thanks to the editorial team progress on the journal continues apace, we are making good progress in catching up, and the digitisation of back issues is now complete, and soon will be available to all via the Archaeology Data Service. One of my first acts as the new chair was to sign an agreement with EBSCO which means in future all Church Archaeology articles will be indexed in online public and academic library catalogues, which should massively increase the reach and profile of our excellent journal.

Although much uncertainty still lies ahead for us all, thanks to the hard work of the SCA committee I am confident that the society will continue to prosper and we shall rise to meet the current challenges in innovative ways. Please continue to visit our website [www.churcharchaeology.org](http://www.churcharchaeology.org) and do keep in touch; I would very much value your suggestions and feedback.

Hugh Willmott

Chair



‘The Dissolution of the Monasteries in England and Wales’ is available via Equinox Publishing (<https://www.equinoxpub.com/home/dissolution-monasteries/>).

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## Official Records 2019

The Society for Church Archaeology is governed by its Constitution, formally adopted by the Society on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1996.

The Society was formed to promote the study, conservation and preservation of churches, other places of worship and associated monuments in their other aspects by the achievement of the advancement of public education.

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

Membership at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 was 254. Subscriptions are available through the Society website or through applications to Dr Josh Schwieso, Membership Secretary.

The postal address for the Charity is:

c/o Council for British Archaeology,  
St Mary's House, 66 Bootham,  
York, YO30 7BZ

The current Committee members from the 2019 AGM were:

Chair: Hugh Willmott

Vice-Chair: Jackie Hall

Hon. Secretary and Charities Commission Correspondent: Cait Scott

Treasurer: Becky Clark

Membership Secretary: Joshua Schwieso

Editor: Martin Huggon

Assistant Editors: Emma Wells and Ruth Nugent

Reviews Editors: John Wand and Cait Scott

Newsletter Editor: Anne Sassin

Website Officer: Aleks McClain

Conference Secretary: John Wand

Publicity Officer: Norma Oldfield

Research Grants Officer: Kristjan Ahronson

Ex-Officio Member: Joseph Elders

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## Conference and AGM 2020

Due to Coronavirus, the 2020 Salisbury Conference will be postponed until 2021.

However, the SCA is pleased to announce that Carenza Lewis will be giving an online lecture for the SCA on the day of our AGM (Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup>), entitled 'Silent Witnesses: Seigneurial Cemeteries in East Anglia'. The AGM will be held first at 13:00, followed by the lecture at 14:00. This event will be free and available via Zoom video conferencing (either available in your web browser or via a downloadable app).

We are inviting all of our members to attend the online AGM, and are opening up the talk to the general public as well. Registration details are available on the website (<https://www.churcharchaeology.org/2020-agm-and-lecture>), but you can also email us at [churcharchaeology@gmail.com](mailto:churcharchaeology@gmail.com) to be sent the registration link.

We look forward to meeting up (virtually) with as many members as possible on the day, and once again in person in Salisbury next year!





## Conference 2019 Review

Our Society for Church Archaeology 2019 conference was held in the beautiful cathedral city of St Albans on September 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> and themed around ‘Silent Witnesses: The Archaeology of Burials, Churchyards, and their Contexts’.



*Graffiti of St Paul's London before the fire at St Mary's, Ashwell (top left; photo by Becky Clark) and various images of the group tour at St Mary's in Reed (Photos by John Wand and Becky Clark)*

Although Martin Biddle was unfortunately unable to present the planned keynote presentation on the opening evening, our new chair Hugh Willmott stepped in and provided a fascinating talk on his work at the hospital cemetery from Thornton Abbey.

The Saturday involved a full range of talks, beginning with Peterborough's Cathedral Archaeologist, Jackie Hall, who spoke on elite burials at the site in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, followed by James Holman, Project Manager at Canterbury Archaeological Trust, on the Monks' graveyard excavation at St Albans. Lizzie Craig-Atkins (Uni of Sheffield) finished off the morning providing an overview on the collaborative Rothwell Charnel Chapel Project, where evidence has suggested that the human remains were intended to be visible, rather than hidden away. The afternoon continued with MOLA's Niamh Cartey who spoke on the 19<sup>th</sup> century Baptist congregation at Mare Street, Hackney, with the final session on the National Burial Grounds Survey from Joe Elders.

Sunday's full day of tours was unfortunately cut short and had to miss out on St Helen's, Wheathampstead, but visits at the churches at Hitchin, Ashwell and Reed were very informative and enjoyed by the membership.



*Outgoing Chair, Brian Ayers, receiving thanks (right; photo by Becky Clark); St Mary's, Hitchin (Photos by John Wand)*



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## Research Grant Update

*Joanna Caruth*

Last year the Society for Church Archaeology generously awarded a grant for further study of Late Saxon polychrome relief tiles recovered during community excavations at Court Knoll in Suffolk (Suffolk HER ref: NYW 006; TL 9750 3400). A preliminary report explaining how this study would contribute to our understanding of the excavated remains of an assumed pre-conquest church was included in the February 2019 newsletter. Practical difficulties, compounded by the current Covid 19 crisis, mean that these results are not yet available, however in the meantime a study of the recovered window glass and charcoal fragments have revealed more about the history of the building.

Approximately 60 fragments of window glass were recovered from the east end of the building and from the same demolition contexts as the tile pieces. These had an opaque dark colour in contrast to the lightly tinted transparent appearance that they would have had originally. Initial examination by Sarah Paynter (Historic England) showed that all were in very poor condition with only one tiny fragment suitable for analysis. This piece however, was sufficient to identify it as a forest type glass, made from plant ashes: a type of glass manufacture that pre-dates the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century. Comparison of the one surviving fragment with other studies has identified an unusual composition for the Court Knoll glass with high potash and low silica content. No exact parallels were found, but the broadly similar examples date to the 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> centuries and Sarah Paynter writes ‘in which case this is a rare, early example of the use of forest glass windows in England. Glazing for the Palace of Westminster was procured at about this time, and any contemporary glazed buildings would also have been of significant status’. As no exact parallel has been found the possibility that it was imported perhaps from continental Europe where some similar glass, but again no exact match, was made for a period in the 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> centuries cannot be ruled out. Following her analysis the glass was conserved with grant monies provided by the Association for the History of Glass, and then further analysis was carried out by Rachel Tyson (Wessex Archaeology). Despite the poor condition of the glass she was able to identify grozed edges thus confirming that the building had glazed windows. Whilst a 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> century date for the glass seems most likely potash glass of this type was being used by the 11<sup>th</sup> century in England for glazed windows in high status ecclesiastical buildings (such as in the windows of Edward the Confessor’s Westminster Cathedral) and therefore an earlier date for this glass cannot be ruled out.

As well as the glass we have also had the charcoal fragments recovered from the same contexts as the tiles and glass examined by Dana Challinor. The species has been identified as almost entirely oak, and an absence of beetle damage indicates that it was in an undecayed condition when burnt. It is likely that these represent burnt roof timbers and the assemblage included some worked wood pieces that seemed to represent carved decoration or detail with an original size of c.2-5cm that might have extended around the



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building. She notes that one would expect such fine carvings to have been removed if the building had been deliberately demolished and this with the good condition of the wood is very strong evidence that the building was destroyed by fire.

Whilst we await the results of the ICP analysis on the tiles we are also expecting a radio-carbon date from the submission of suitable pieces of charcoal. We cannot, of course know that the roof was put in when the building was constructed but establishing the latest possible date for its destruction will be very important for understanding the history of the structure, and will have nationally important implications for the study of medieval glass.

This update by Jo Caruth includes information from the reports by Sarah Paynter, Rachel Tyson and Dana Challinor.



*Fragments of charcoal with carved decoration from Court Knoll*

### Remember!

Details of the Society's Research Grant can be found on the website (<https://www.churcharchaeology.org/research>).

This year's deadline is 15th November.

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# Notes from Canterbury Cathedral and Precincts

Nathalie Cohen

Canterbury Cathedral is currently the site of a major conservation project, 'The Canterbury Journey' – a five-year long project supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund; this comprises repairs to the exterior fabric of the Nave and Western Towers, wide-ranging landscaping and infrastructure works, the development of exhibition spaces to display previously unseen collection items (within the Water Tower, the Crypt Treasury and the Library Undercroft), a new Visitor Centre, Shop and Community Studio and conservation works to the Christ Church Gate. Alongside this there are also numerous other projects underway across the Cathedral and Precincts including work to install a new Quire Organ and Loft, a lift access in the Cloister and the development of a new Science block at the Kings School. The interim results of some of these projects have recently been described in *Current Archaeology* (Issue 364) together with some of the research projects relating to the 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the martyrdom of Archbishop Thomas Becket.

## *The Canterbury Voice*

The construction of a new Organ Loft in the North Quire Aisle has meant impact to the historic floor, previously disturbed by the installation of heating pipes in 1948. Investigations under the paving have been undertaken by CAT and a graffiti survey of the pre-Reformation plastered elevation to the Eastry Screen by MJC Associates. Multiple inscriptions survived across the plaster surface including names, initials and dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, late medieval abbreviated Latin text and at least twenty compass-drawn designs, which could represent astronomical drawings.

There has also been further archaeological recording in the North and South Quire Triforia by Rupert Austin of Canterbury Archaeological Trust prior to the installation of the organ itself. Dendrochronological sampling of timbers in the North Triforium roof has provided a felling date range of AD 1160-1192 demonstrating that this part of the structure is a survival of William of Sens' work – probably the only fragment of his quire roof of c1180 to be identified and possibly all that remains.

The removal of the organ console, electrical components and furniture from the earlier Organ Loft in the Pulpitum (or Quire Screen) offers an opportunity for further recording. Documentary sources record alterations to the original 12<sup>th</sup> century structure in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century with the addition of wooden doors, and further changes in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century by Prior Eastry have been previously recorded and remain visible in places. The west face was dismantled and replaced during the late 14<sup>th</sup> – early 15<sup>th</sup> century, and an organ was located here by 1508. The area is also a graffiti 'hotspot' with medieval text inscriptions, ritual protection marks and the names and dates of choristers and organ boys surviving in profusion. Fragmentary paper documents ranging in date from 18<sup>th</sup>

century to modern have been retrieved by members of the Cathedral Archives team. These artefacts include musical manuscript fragments, an auction note of 1805 and service notes.

### *Cloister Access Lift*

During early 2019, excavations took place in the south walk of the Great Cloister (Fig 1) to expose and remove a section of medieval tiled floor and prepare the area for the installation of a new lift (designed to enable step-free access into the Cathedral). CAT worked with conservators from the Cathedral and external specialists to lift the tiles, revealing a surviving section of the Anglo-Saxon north west tower below. The dating of the tiles (late 13<sup>th</sup> – early / mid-14<sup>th</sup> century) predates the construction date of the upstanding Cloister masonry (1397-1414) which may suggest they have been reused from elsewhere. Of particular interest is a tile representing a pilgrim (Fig 2) – it was made locally at Tyler Hill, just to the north of the city and similar examples have been found elsewhere in Kent, and as far afield as Northamptonshire.

### *The Canterbury Journey*



*Fig 1: excavation in the Cloister*  
© Canterbury Cathedral / Nathalie Cohen

Works around the Cathedral as part of The Canterbury Journey have included excavations for services, for landscaping and paving, and for new structures, including boundary walls and buildings. Roman remains, including partial structures and demolition debris, have been revealed in deeper excavations for bore-holes, and nearly 100 medieval skeletons from the lay cemetery south of the Cathedral were recorded during drainage works. These modern

*Fig 2: medieval pilgrim tile*  
© Canterbury Cathedral / Nathalie Cohen

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water management projects have revealed aspects of their medieval and post-medieval equivalents such as the late 15<sup>th</sup> / early 16<sup>th</sup> century Great Drain of Prior Goldstone, and parts of a possible conduit house, recorded by 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century antiquarians.

Evaluation work was undertaken during 2017 and more extensive excavation has followed during 2018 and 2019— at the International Study Centre, outside Cathedral House and in particular at the West End of the Precincts. The excavations have revealed medieval and post-medieval structural remains representing the parts of the southern ranges of the Archbishop's Palace, including elements of the 11<sup>th</sup>-century Great Hall, medieval chalk and flint extensions (or buildings adjacent) to the palace, together with later modification in brickwork. There was also evidence for possible outbuildings, boundary walls plus external surfaces and make up layers, laid and re-laid many times to allow passage around the cathedral and to accommodate fairs held in the Precincts.

### ***Kings School Science Block***

Canterbury Archaeological Trust are also on site at the Kings School, undertaking excavations in advance of a new building, which will replace Mitchinsons House. The latter building was constructed in the late 1970s, during which time CAT excavated (amongst other features) the remains of the Almonry Chapel. The present investigations lie just to the north of the 20<sup>th</sup> century building's footprint, within the Mint Yard. Substantial sections of an intra-mural Roman road have been revealed, truncated by numerous post-Roman features have been revealed including pits and evidence for buildings. The excavations are ongoing, with investigation of pre-Roman features, including a substantial paleochannel, now exposed.



*Fig 3: View of the Cathedral from the Christ Church Gate*  
© Canterbury Cathedral / Nathalie Cohen



# Fifth Continent church archaeology on Romney Marsh, Kent

*Andrew Mayfield*

There are an incredible twenty-five church sites within the area covered by the Fifth Continent Landscape Partnership Scheme on Romney Marsh. The scheme, led by Kent Wildlife Trust and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund has been delivering a number of exciting projects based around three key themes to restore, rediscover and reclaim Romney Marsh. One of these is the Sentinels of the Marsh. The Sentinels are the 14 standing and 11 lost or ruined churches. Working with teams of local volunteers, the scheme's heritage officers have delivered a series of projects.



*St Clement's  
Church,  
Old Romney*

## *Work at the standing churches*

Four projects have been delivered at the standing churches. At Ivychurch we undertook a resistivity survey, to explore buried archaeology in the churchyard. Positive geophysical anomalies were identified at both the west and east end of the main building, which could relate to additional lost built elements of the church. At Burmarsh, Brenzett and Snave we have undertaken graveyard recording surveys. The Burmarsh work has been published in booklet form for the church and we hope to put the results of the Brenzett and Snave surveys online in due course.



*Graveyard recording work taking  
place with 5<sup>th</sup> continent volunteers*

## ***Work at lost churches***

Work has focused on one of the lost churches: St Martin's in New Romney. This was demolished in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century and no plan or map detailing the location of the church survives. Over the course of 2019 we undertook a series of geophysical surveys to try and accurately locate the main building within St Martin's field. These surveys revealed a series of anomalies, including evidence for a possible shingle ridge. We followed the surveys up with an auger survey. These hand-turned auger holes gave us a further indication of where we might expect to find surviving structural elements. Finally, in the summer of 2019 we dug a series of test pits on the field. These hand-dug test pits identified at least one structural element to the lost church, possibly a buttress. We hope to return to the site before the end of the project and investigate this fascinating site further.



*Medieval floor tile from the St Martin's field excavation in 2019*

## ***Work at the ruined churches***

Two of the ruined church sites have been chosen for further study. Midley Church, between Old Romney and Lydd, is a striking ruin located on a slight rise within what was Walland Marsh. Volunteers have been researching the church and using Kent Archives, aerial photographs, old maps and LiDAR to learn more about this protected site. The ruins of Eastbridge Church are located between Newchurch and Burmarsh, within a small copse. Volunteers have also carried out desk-based research on this site. It is hoped that as we emerge from the Covid19 emergency, we can undertake survey work at both sites to understand these enigmatic structures.



*The ruins of Midley Church, image courtesy Emma Batten*

## ***Other planned activities***

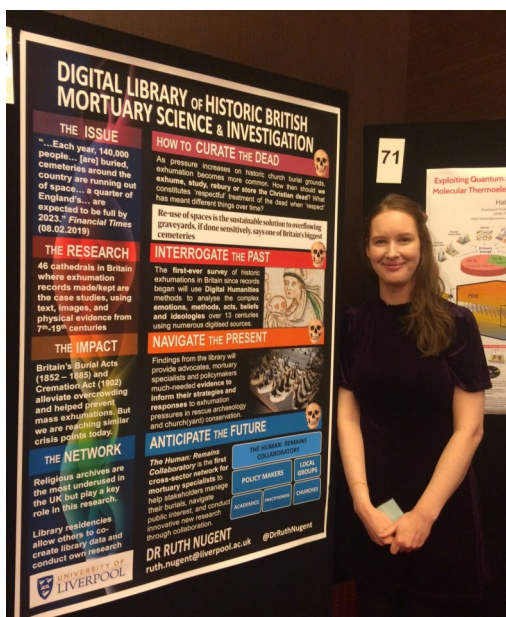
The Fifth Continent Landscape Partnership is developing two further projects with the historic churches on Romney Marsh over the next year. A new app, developed in partnership with Romney Marsh Historic Churches Trust, will enable visitors to undertake self-guided tours of the Marsh's medieval churches. A further exciting project, The Marsh Mosaics, will tell the heritage story of Romney Marsh through a series of mosaics designed and created in collaboration with the local churches. None of this work would be possible without the support of the local community, the Fifth Continent volunteers, the St Martin's Field Trust and the Romney Marsh Historic Churches Trust. For further details and other events within the historic churches follow the Fifth Continent on Facebook (@FifthContinentLPS), subscribe to the newsletter (<https://fifthcontinent.org.uk/>) or contact the Heritage Officer([andrew.mayfield@kentwildlife.org.uk](mailto:andrew.mayfield@kentwildlife.org.uk)).

# 'The Human Remains' research programme

Ruth Nugent

Although many will know me from my role as editorial assistant for the Journal of Church Archaeology, I am very pleased to be able to announce that I have been awarded £1.1million by the government's UKRI Future Leader's Fellowship scheme to investigate the history and archaeology of burial management and exhumation inside Britain's cathedrals and churches. Entitled 'The Human Remains: A Digital Library of Historic British Mortuary Science & Investigation', this new programme of research was launched in November 2019 at the University of Liverpool, demonstrating substantial government investment in church burial environments.

Managing historic church burials and monuments is complex and anticipating what may (not) be found during development work is often guesswork. This new research and engagement programme aims to reduce the confusion. The project will provide the first ever study of historic disturbances of the church dead in England, Scotland, and Wales, using records from the 7<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These will be compiled in a new, open-access digital reference library which can be added to, and consulted by, those involved with managing historic church burials as well as students, scholars, and anyone interested in the history and archaeology of burial disturbances and postmortem practices before the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



The research team will work alongside churches and cathedrals; burial policymakers; archaeologists; cathedral librarians and archivists; those involved with maintaining church interiors; exhumation units, and scholars, to help shape modern strategies for managing the historic dead inside our churches. The evidence compiled in this project will be used in two ways. Firstly, records of burials being evacuated, destroyed, or relocated in the past can help us anticipate where burials might be affected by repair and rebuilding work. Secondly, through digital linguistic analysis of the library entries we can reveal what has historically been considered 'respectful treatment' of the dead, contextualising and guiding how we 'respectfully' conduct and record such disturbances today.

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Ruth and her research team are keen to collaborate with any local interest groups or individuals interested in researching specific examples of church burial disturbance and develop these as case studies for the library. Examples can include (but are not limited to): saints' remains being relocated or reburied; tomb openings by antiquarians; destruction and disturbance of burials during periods of crisis and conflict (e.g. the Reformation; the English Civil War; periods of iconoclasm; local disputes and riots); the display of human bones in charnel houses and ossuaries; and practical re-arrangement of burials due to space, conservation efforts, or building maintenance.

These will set benchmark studies that can guide local policy for strategic curation and research of key tombs and burials. The team can help local groups develop these case studies into local exhibitions and displays; contribute to education sessions, guidebooks, talks, and generate new public interest in local churches and their archives. Ruth would be delighted to hear from churches, archaeologists, conservators, developers, librarians and archivists, professional exhumation services, academics, students, and anyone else interested in collaborating or advising the project. You are very welcome to contact the project to get involved or for more information at [remains@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:remains@liverpool.ac.uk).

By working with churches to identify local, regional, and national patterns and histories of burial disturbance across England, Scotland, and Wales, it can inform planning and maintenance strategies across all historic sites with church burials (cathedrals, churches, castles, stately homes, converted churches, ruined religious houses etc). By learning from these intricate histories of burial and disturbance, we may offer those buried in our churches a more stable future.

## **Online PGDip in Parish Church Studies: History, Heritage and Fabric at the University of York delivered in association with The Churches Conservation Trust (CCT)**

*Emma Wells*

Studying the English Parish Church can be one of the most enriching pursuits in academia. A physical embodiment of religion, popular devotion, community, economy and government, these institutions encapsulate the very history of the British Isles. At the University of York, you can do just that. The only course of its kind, the two-year, part-time ONLINE (run by distance learning) *Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in Parish Church Studies: History, Heritage and Fabric* is delivered in association with *The Churches Conservation Trust* is open to applications.

Covering the spread of Christianity from the Age of the Venerable Bede, right through to the role of the church today, the programmes offers an unparalleled opportunity to gain detailed and practical knowledge of the history, use, care and conservation of the English parish church. We consider the controversial exploits of the Victorian movements then



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journey all the way back to the Break with Rome, and how it impacted communities at grass-roots level. We also travel back again to unravel liturgy, and how it aided the development of ecclesiastical architecture, and forward to consider how those buildings (and their immediate environment: the churchyard) may be used, reused, managed and maintained in what is arguably a difficult religious climate.

The interdisciplinary nature of the diploma, originally devised in association with *The Centre for the Study of Christianity and Culture & My-Parish*, means it really does have something for everyone. From art and architecture to conservation, to the communities that have shaped and been shaped by the church – even to the legislation that governs and the evidence that survives. In equal measure, the programme introduces the skills and resources you will need for academic work at postgraduate level, from analytical rigour, independent thought, and clear communication, meaning you will be well prepared for the world of work or further research.

The online component allows you to undertake the course from anywhere in the world and, most importantly, to be flexible with your studies allowing you to complete work around your schedule, all the while supported by expert staff who will challenge you to think creatively and independently, and provide participation in a lively yet scholarly online community. We have introduced many ways that allow you to interact with both your tutor and your fellow students, such as the ‘virtual refectory’. There are also specialist resources provided by expert lecturers, as well as hosted virtual lectures and seminars which are a wonderful opportunity for all to get together “face to face” (even if some are at the other side of the world), and regular phone and Skyping opportunities for one-to-one tutorials, so a real mix of platforms — by no means is this simply reading a screen and responding. There are a whole host of ways you will be networking, virtually studying and exploring new ways to learn about churches.

You will emerge as a well-rounded researcher ready to pursue graduate careers in a variety of sectors including history, planning, heritage, the museums sector, the Church, teaching, public history, archives or Masters/doctoral level research.

Finally, there is an optional residential school held within York which allows you to get together and meet your peers, mingle with experts (including CCT staff) and, of course, visit some wonderful churches (including evensong at magnificent York Minster – what more could you ask for?!).

The PGDip in Parish Church Studies starts in late September, concurrent with each new academic year – places are limited to ensure a constructive atmosphere for discussions. To apply, visit: [york.ac.uk/parish](http://york.ac.uk/parish) or contact the Programme Director, Dr Emma Wells ([emma.wells@york.ac.uk](mailto:emma.wells@york.ac.uk)). Please note, we are committed to ensuring open access and will seek to ensure those without the qualifications highlighted above, but with evident ability to succeed, have the opportunity to engage. Applicants are assessed on a case-by-case basis following the University's Equal Opportunities policy.

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# Society for Church Archaeology Accounts 2019

## *Report on the Financial Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2019*

The Society for Church Archaeology had no assets and/or liabilities, other than those listed in the accounts, during the financial year beginning on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 and ending on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

### **Summary:**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Opening balance 1 January 2019</b>	<b>Closing balance 31 December 2019</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Current Account	£18,877.20	£17,579.88	<b>-£1,297.32</b>
Paypal Account	£1,538.23	<u>£1,592.05</u>	<b>£53.82</b>
Investment (COIF) Accounts	£16,885.45	£16,981.54	<b>£96.09</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£37,300.88</b>	<b>£36,153.47</b>	<b>-£1,147.41</b>

Our in-year expenditure exceeded income by £1,147.41 across all accounts. This was anticipated as we successfully published a newsletter and journal in 2019/20.

We awarded one research grant of £990. For administrative reasons this will show as paid from the 2020 accounts. If paid in 2019 (when awarded) this would have meant expenditure was £2137.41 over income. This amount falls within the planned expenditure curve as we catch up on the backlog of journal issues.

The Annual Conference in St Albans made a surplus of £485.17 in 2019, which as always will be put back into the work of the Society.

The Mick Aston Bequest (a deposit in 2015 of £8,110.47) is held in general funds, but grants given from it are recorded separately in the accounts for purposes of transparency. The Bequest was given for any purpose relating to the Society's charitable purposes, and the Trustees decided that it should be used to provide grants to allow needful students to attend the annual conference for free. No grants were claimed from the Mick Aston bequest in 2019.

This statement represents the Society's accounts for its twenty-third year of operation. The finances are set as a record of overall income and expenditure under a series of sub-headings, and as a balance sheet to 31 December 2019. The accounts for 2018 are included for comparative purposes.

# Financial Information

<b>Opening Balance</b>	Current Account	£18,877.20
(Carried forward from 2018)	Paypal Account	£1,538.23
	Investments	<u>£16,885.45</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£37,300.88</b>

Income	2019	2018
Membership subscriptions	£5,475.00	£6,269.50
Zeitlinger <sup>i</sup> & EBSCO <sup>ii</sup>	£940.00	£600.00
Donations, sales and misc income	--	£101.13
Conference Income	£4,416.61	£2,949.50
Coif Account Interest	£79.68	£76.36
Journal Digitisation Grant <sup>iii</sup>	--	£1,279.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,911.29</b>	<b>£11,275.49</b>

Expenditure	2019	2018
Journal/Newsletter/Publications	£6,698.03	£1,779.40
Trustee Meeting Costs (room hire & subsistence)	£1,020.91	£1,132.02
Sec Services and website fees	£360.03	£32.63
Grants from general funds	<i>(£990 awarded but paid out in 2020)</i>	£990
Grants from Mick Aston Bequest	--	£110
Conference Expenditure	£4,091.61	£2,594.73
Heritage Alliance Membership	£165.00	£145.00
Journal digitisation <sup>iv</sup>	--	£1,156.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>£13,325.58</b>	<b>£7,939.88</b>

Balance of income over expenditure -£1,147.41

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2019

Represented by:	Current Account	£17,971.28
	Paypal Account	£1,592.05
	Investments	<u>£16,981.54</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£36,153.47</b>

### Notes on the Financial Information and Balance Sheet

<sup>i</sup> ZEITLINER. Dutch library and publishing organisation based in Leiden, with UK offices in Abingdon.

<sup>ii</sup> EBSCO. US-based journal distribution service.

<sup>iii / iv</sup> A grant from the Mark Fitch Fund for digitisation of the journal

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## Forthcoming Events

### ***Churches Conservation Trust online talks and lectures***

Free livestream lectures on Thursday at 1pm.  
Details: <https://www.visitchurches.org.uk/what-we-do/things-to-do-at-home/online-talks-and-lectures.html>

### ***Dark Archives 20/20: A Conference on the Medieval Unread & Unreadable***

8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> September 2020, online

Looking at medieval primary materials and accessibility, particularly those which can be digitally captured. Details: <https://aevum.space/darkarchives>

### ***Becket 2020***

All Becket2020 events have been postponed, with commemorations now likely to begin on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2020 with Canterbury Cathedral's Martyrdom of Thomas Becket Choral Evensong, and continue during 2021. Details: <https://becket2020.com/>

### ***Ecclesiological Society Annual Conference—The Lay Experience of the Medieval Cathedral***

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2020, London

Possibly due to be postponed. Details: <http://ecclsoc.org/2020/03/05/2020-agm-and-lecture/>

### ***Ecclesiological Society AGM and Lecture—The Challenges of English Cathedrals in the 21st Century***

9<sup>th</sup> December 2020, London

Postponed from April, this talk by Becky Clark, Director of Churches & Cathedrals on the Archbishops' Council, has been rescheduled to its new date. Details: <http://ecclsoc.org/2020/03/05/2020-agm-and-lecture/>

### ***Society for Medieval Archaeology Annual Conference—"Cultures of Cloth" The Archaeology of Textiles in Medieval Northwest Europe***

Scheduled for July 2020 at the University of Nottingham but now postponed, this conference will explore the ways in which 'cultures of cloth' wove the fabric of medieval life. Details: <https://medievalarchaeology.co.uk/events/conferences/>

### ***Deerhurst Lecture—The cathedral community at Worcester, Odda of Deerhurst and his contemporaries***

Spring 2021, Deerhurst Church

This talk by Francesca Tinti is postponed until 2021. Details: <https://deerhurstfriends.co.uk/lectures-events/>

### ***International Romanesque Conference—The Year 1000 in Romanesque Art and Architecture***

20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021, Hildesheim

Originally scheduled for 2020, this conference will examine art and architecture in the Latin West between c.970 and c.1030. Details: <https://thebaa.org/meetings-events/conferences/romanesque-conferences/>

### ***British Archaeological Association Annual Conference—Medieval Chichester: Cathedral, City and Surrounding Area***

31<sup>st</sup> August - 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021, Chichester

The conference will consider the cathedral buildings, vicars' close, bishop's palace and wider architectural landscape of West Sussex. Details: <https://thebaa.org/event/medieval-chichester-cathedral-city-and-surrounding-area/>