

Report from Canterbury Christ Church University

We are continuing to organise activities on Kentish history through the Centre for Kent History and Heritage. Full details can be found on the centre's webpages, which includes a weekly blog.

<https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-humanities/research-kent-history-and-archaeology/centre-for-research-in-kent-history-and-archaeology.aspx>

<https://blogs.canterbury.ac.uk/kenthistory/norman-landscapes-in-normandy-kent-and-derbyshire/>

The recent Tudors and Stuarts Weekend was a great success. Speakers included David Starkey, Janina Ramirez and Alison Weir, alongside CCCU staff and local history experts.

Events coming up include:

Saturday 3 June, Old Sessions House, Og46, at 9.30

'The Baedeker Raid on Canterbury – 75 years on' half-day conference + guided walk in the early afternoon [limited to 25 people].

Exhibition of photos in Old Sessions foyer, provided by Canterbury Cathedral Archives and Library. Speakers: Professor Kevin Ruane (CCCU), Professor Paul Bennett (CAT) and Jordan Newton (CCCU)

Thursday 8 June, Newton, Ng07 at 7pm

'From martyrdom to Magna Carta. . . ' The life, poetry and fate of Nigel Wireker monk of Canterbury' talk by Dr Diane Heath (CCCU)

Nigel Wireker and his great poems celebrating the 800th anniversary of his death. An important Christ Church monk author around the time of Becket (died in 1217) who uses (bestiary) animals to get across his political message. In addition to the texts, this talk will include material culture. Organised jointly with FCAT.

Saturday 17 June, Old Sessions House, Og46 at 10am

'Tithes through the Ages: the Historian's View' one-day conference

Speakers: Professor Christopher Dyer (University of Leicester), Dr Ben Dodds (Durham University), Dr Paula Simpson (Trinity College, Cambridge), Dr John Bulaitis (CCCU), Elizabeth Finn (Kent Archive Service), Stuart Morrison (University of Kent)

Wednesday 21 June, GHf06 at 11.00-13.00

Kent History Postgraduates Meeting

Discussion forum to be led by Lily Hawker-Yates and Jacie Cole.

Thursday 6 July, Newton, Ng07 at 7pm

'Roman cemetery to Norman castle: recent excavations at Rhodaus Town, Canterbury' talk by Dr Richard Helm (CAT)

Richard will talk about the exciting discoveries made during the very recent excavation of the Peugeot Garage site, Rhodaus Town which has revealed an extensive Roman cemetery as well as hugely significant evidence for William the Conqueror's motte and bailey castle built very soon after the Battle of Hastings to accommodate William and his army as they advanced on London. This is one of a number of recent and ongoing excavations

transforming our understanding of extramural activity south of the city. Organised jointly with FCAT.

Wednesday 27 September, Old Sessions House, Og46 at 7pm

Sixth Nightingale Memorial Lecture

'Hop growing in Britain – past, present and future'

Given by Tony Redsell OBE, retired Chairman of the British Hop Association

Drinks reception from 6.30pm

Organised jointly with the Agricultural Museum, Brook

Register interest but booking not necessary.

Saturday 7 October, Old Sessions House, at 10.15

'Garden History Study Day: from Monastic to Tradescant Gardens' one-day conference

Using a combination of lectures, workshops and guided tours on the medieval monastic sites of St Augustine's Abbey and Christ Church Priory, and the later gardens of John

Tradescant for Lady Wootton, participants will explore garden history with experts such as Jayne Wackett, Mat Baldwin, Karen Brayshaw and Jennifer Potter.

Postgraduate research on Kent

We have a growing number of postgraduate students working on Kent history topics. Topics include prehistoric structures in the Kentish landscape, the development of numeracy in the early modern period and food in rural Kent during the Second World War.

Full profiles of our students can be found at:

<https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-humanities/research-kent-history-and-archaeology/postgraduate-profiles/ckhh-postgraduate-profiles.aspx>

Information regarding the Ian Coulson Memorial Postgraduate Award can be found at:

<https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-humanities/research-kent-history-and-archaeology/ian-coulson-memorial-prize/the-ian-coulson-memorial-prize.aspx>

Professor Kevin Ruane

Kevin Ruane, Professor of Modern History, has been awarded a by-fellowship at Churchill College Cambridge, in recognition of his work on Churchill in the past, and his book, *Churchill and the Bomb* (Bloomsbury, 2016). Kevin has also been asked to deliver a keynote address at the 34th Annual International Churchill Society conference in New York in October. In between, he will be appearing on Channel 5 in a series on the Queen's Homes, notably Balmoral.