

Newsletter

Canterbury Cathedral
Archives and Library News

Canterbury on Film

After the hugely successful showings of historic Canterbury film presented last Winter and Spring by the late Tony Blake, the Archives has been helping Tim Jones of Canterbury Christ Church University host further screenings of amateur cine film footage, dating from 1925 to 1972.

The event on the 27th October—entitled ‘Canterbury on Film: a showing of archive film from the 1920s to the 1970s’—was ‘sold out’ in days. (Tickets were free, available from the Archives.) The Powell Lecture Theatre at CCCU was filled with people full of anticipation; they were not disappointed.

Tim (Senior Lecturer at the Department of Media, Art and Design) has spent many hours viewing local amateur collections, including those of Tony Blake, and film which had been donated to the Screen Archive South East (in Brighton), Canterbury Cathedral Archives and Canterbury Museums. He has made contact with many local film makers, some of whom were sitting in the audience.

He was able to show us film which until recently, and in response to his appeals, had remained hidden until a few months ago.

So the lights were lowered and hush descended for an hour’s worth of a magical, historical trip around Canterbury. The hush was soon replaced by murmurings by those recognising views of Canterbury long gone. Tim is keen on audience participation and learning from local residents about the locations shown, especially the south end of the city around the ring road and the Old and New Dover Road areas, which have change remarkably since the Second World War.

One film by Leslie Goulden (whose family owned the piano shop in the High Street) showed the Duke of Kent laying the foundation stone of the ‘new’ Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Other clips included the Kent and

Australian Cricket teams, steam trains at Canterbury West Station and Bill Entwistle’s remarkable film sets in Upstreet. We saw John McCallum’s film of the Royal Visit in 1946, showing buddleia amongst the rubble in the City after the bombings. Peter Mills’ film showed the site

of the present Canterbury Christ Church University, relevant for the forthcoming 50th anniversary in 2012. More up to date was John Clague’s film of Canterbury in 1972 showing parts of the city rarely filmed. To finish was film from the collection of Sydney Bligh, which came forward as a result of an appeal in the local newspaper, three weeks before the showing. This contained colour film from the 1930s and 1940s.

Chatting continued as the lights went up, and everyone was grateful to have had another chance to travel back in time through their own and the City’s history.

The next screening, showing an entirely new set of film, will take place on Saturday 10th March, 2pm, in the Powell lecture theatre. Tickets are free; to reserve your tickets please

phone the Sidney Cooper Gallery (01227 453267) from January; gallery staff have kindly agreed to co-ordinate the bookings for this next show.

Tim is always on the look-out for more film, so if you find long-lost boxes of film of Canterbury or surrounding area in the attic do contact him at tim.jones@canterbury.ac.uk (01227 782350). Tim is also trying to trace the following people or their descendants:

Eric Cardwell, John Mann, Rita and Jack Blundell, and Scott Blackhall from the Canterbury Amateur Cine Society during the 1930s; Mr Maurice-Yates from the Thanet Amateur Cine Association during the 1930s; and Anthony Field, Don Webb, and Vic Townsend from the Canterbury Amateur Cine Society Film Unit during the 1950s.

If you can help, please get in touch with him.



Archives Update

The Dean and Chapter has commenced the planning process for the closure of the Archives from 31st January 2012, as reported in the last newsletter. Further information will be posted on our website at www.canterbury-cathedral.org and will be publicised at the Archives.

User meeting

As publicised at the Archives, on 15th September there was an open meeting with users of the Cathedral Archives and Library, to discuss the proposed closure. Minutes of this meeting are available from the Archives. Items discussed included what records would be moving from the Cathedral Archives to the History and Library Centre in Maidstone, and also access to Archives and Library resources during the period of the closure.

Future location of archives

The Dean and Chapter's own archive will remain at Canterbury, and the City Council has decided to retain its archive at Canterbury in the care of the Dean and Chapter. Holdings of parish records will remain unchanged: records of the pre-2011 Archdeaconry of Canterbury (disregarding the creation of the Archdeaconry of Ashford in 2011 and the redrawing of archdeaconry boundaries) will remain in Canterbury.

Records of the Diocese of Canterbury (ie DCb prefix, with catalogues in green folders) may move to Maidstone after the opening of the History and Library Centre in Spring 2012. The 'unofficial' category of records, which represents records of institutions and individuals in the Canterbury area, will need to be assessed on a collection by collection basis, in order to establish their most suitable location. If you have any particular concerns about material in this category, please email Cressida Williams on archives@canterbury-cathedral.org

Access to microfilm during the closure

The Dean and Chapter is grateful to the Special Collections Department of the Templeman Library, University of Kent, for offering to house a microfilm resource during the period of closure. This facility

will be available from mid-February 2012. Further details of microfilms which will be available will be announced in due course. Bookings for readers, by the half day, can be made from 1st February (01227 827609, email specialcollections@kent.ac.uk).

Access to documents during the closure

It is possible requests for access to specific manuscript resources may be provided during the closure, in exceptional circumstances. If you can foresee such a need for access, please email the Archives before 31st December 2011.

Access to Cathedral Library collections

Access to the historic book collection from the Cathedral Library will not be affected; arrangements for consultation, including opening times, are to be confirmed. Access will be retained to certain books currently held in the searchroom. If you foresee a need to access books currently held in the searchroom, please email library@canterbury-cathedral.org by 31st December.

Access to Local Studies materials

Microfilms of local newspapers, including the Kentish Gazette from 1768 onwards, currently available at the Archives, will be available at Herne Bay Library from mid February until Canterbury Library reopens in the Beaney next year. Customers wishing to view them will need to book the microfilm reader at the library in advance: tel 08458 247200, email hernebaylibrary@kent.gov.uk

Photography orders and research requests

We regret that it may not be possible to accommodate photography orders and requests for research after 31st December. Please email us as soon as possible with any requests.

Accessions

Those intending to deposit, or gift, archive material should contact us soon as possible to make arrangements for this. We may not be able to take in new material after 31st December.

Staffing Update

Peter Whitehead, Conservation Manager, will be leaving the staff in early December, in order to take up a post in New Zealand. We will be bidding farewell and bon voyage to Peter on 9th December—please join us if you can, at 3pm.

As part of the staffing review across the Archives Service, Mark Bateson, Sheila Malloch, Sarah Stanley and Paul Blewitt, from the Cathedral Archives staff, have secured posts in the new History and Library Centre in Maidstone, and will leave here at the end of December.

There will be an opportunity to say goodbye to these colleagues on Friday 16th December, at 2.15pm, at our festive drinks party. Please see the invitation elsewhere in this newsletter, and join us if you can.

At the end of January 2012, Anne Thorburn, Daniel Korachi-Alaoui and Laura Jenkins are due to return to their substantive posts at Canterbury Library. Cressida Williams, Jacalyn Davidson and Michael Smart will remain until the end of February.

Memories of a Village Kid

As we move steadily towards the end of this saga of my memories I cannot fail to mention some more of the village characters, as well as noteworthy local village animals. Let me set the scene again for you – as one enters Wingham from Sandwich or Preston, you drive down either of the two hills which bring you into Bridge Street. To the left was the Lawrences' house, then W. W. Johnson's Dairy shop and house, next to that was Mr. Wedgett and family, whilst next to them was the small farmyard of Mr. Deverson. Across the road was Deverson's meadow, which was fenced off with wire behind a narrow pavement of about 18 inches. Situated at the river/Petts Lane entrance was the corner in which Mr. Deverson's horse stood when not working. We always called him "Darkie Deverson", and on the way home from school or when out playing we used to give him handfuls of freshly pulled grass and stroke his nose and talk to him.

I will always have very fond memories of the Johnson family as both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were extremely kind to me in my formative years, and I believe that I looked upon Mr. Johnson with great respect, and in return for always turning up for my work at the Dairy, no matter how cold the weather, they treated me like a son. They not only paid me 50p. a week (10/- in old money), which was what my Mum got for her war widow's pension, but they also took me out in the summer on Sundays to watch the grass track racing at Lydden near Dover. This was a real treat because not only did I have a great afternoon at the racing, but Mrs. Johnson's picnic hamper was crammed with so many different goodies that a kid like me could only dream about, and they just kept saying "Tuck in sonny, don't worry about us, you enjoy yourself", so I did! On Sundays when we were going racing it was important to get all the milk delivered in the

village, as well as a complete stack of crated bottles ready for the schools, and these were one third of a pint bottles for the schoolchildren of which there were three crates of 24 bottles. Then all of the village deliveries on order, of half pint, one pint and quart bottles (two pints). Some people still had the milk dipped from the churn with an equivalent measure for their jug. After this process was completed the milk jug was then usually covered with a neat crocheted cover, and often with glass beads sewn around its edge so that the wind did not blow it off.

Mr. Arthur Morris was Mr. Johnson's brother-in-law and, as I recall, he had a crippled foot, and it always being stiff he sort of hobbled about. He also said that he had a Duodenal Ulcer, due to which he was forever belching wind. I recall that Mr. Johnson was always making funny remarks about his brother-in-law's 'wind-bagging', he not being a nasty person these remarks all going by the board. Mrs. Johnson's sister was married to an Army Captain, known to me only as Captain Wells, and they had only one son, Christopher. It seems that Captain Wells went missing in action during the war and, to all intents and purposes, was amongst the war dead. We had no reason to doubt that and all believed it. It was said that Christopher's education was privately financed and he went to a good Grammar School. Some years ago, and quite out of the blue, I was told that a certain Major Wells showed up. He had been promoted up one rank, but where had he been for so many years. It would be nice if this story were true, and maybe it is. In life there has got to eventually be a happy ending.

Alf Beeching

The Making of the King James Bible

This has been a year of conferences, readings, and celebrations to mark the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible of 1611, culminating in a service at Westminster Abbey on (appropriately enough) 16/11. Most people know the King James Bible for the majesty and potency of its prose, and indeed the comment by Thomas Babington Macaulay in the mid-19th century has been much quoted this year: 'a book in which if everything else in our language should perish, would alone suffice to show the whole extent of its beauty and power'. This would have surprised the translators themselves, who were more concerned with accuracy and intelligibility than with style, and in any case were more accustomed to writing in Latin than in English. The history of the Reformation has been punctuated by new translations of the Bible, by both Catholics and Protestants, from Latin into vernacular languages, so we may enquire why yet another one was produced in England in 1611?

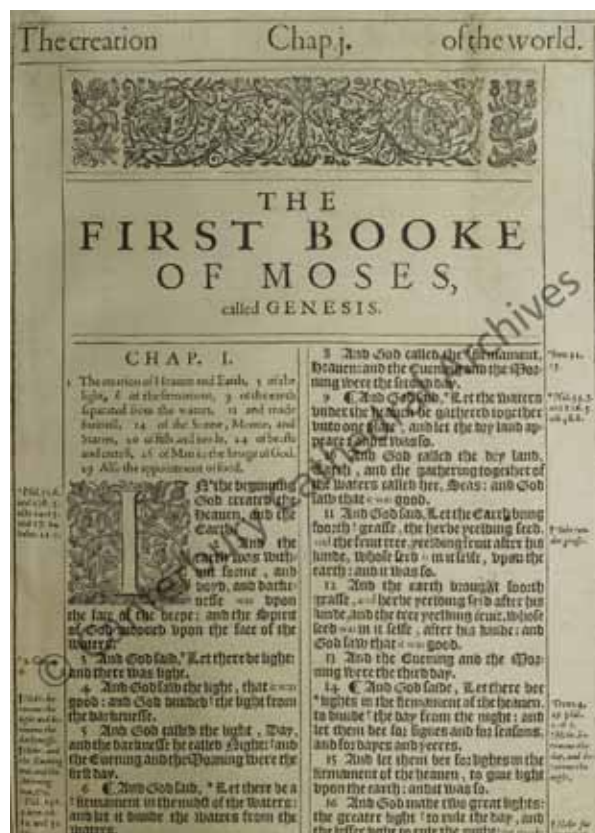
To answer this means looking closely at the politics of 1603-4. James I had come to the throne in March 1603, and arrived in England offering to redress any outstanding grievances and abuses, in Church as in state. So in response to the petition from puritans, who hoped to persuade him to reform the church and purify it of its remnants of popery, James convened a conference at his palace at Hampton Court in January 1604, where he listened to puritan requests for change in the Church. The king hoped to solve the problem of Puritanism by doing a deal with the puritans: concessions in return for their acceptance of his role as supreme governor and of his authority to settle matters of doctrine and ceremony. The king rejected most of the puritans' demands, but

to keep them on board and give them something, he did agree to a few of their requests. The most important of these was for a new translation of the Bible. Rather unexpectedly John Rainolds, one of the four puritan delegates, had 'moved his Majesty that there might be a new translation of the Bible, because those which were allowed in the reigns of Henry VIII and Edward VI were corrupt and not answerable to the truth of the original'. James readily agreed, as he particularly disliked the popular Geneva Bible of 1560, with its marginal notes encouraging resistance to tyrannical kings.

But there was more going on here than simply making a timely concession to puritans. As a scholar and theologian, James VI and I was genuinely interested in the problem of translating the scriptures. In Scotland in 1602 James had urged the Scottish Kirk to produce a new translation, and promised to revise the Psalms himself. Nothing came of this initiative, but it makes sense to see his support for the idea in England in 1604 as reviving his enthusiasm in Scotland for it just two years before. Moreover, James did get to

work on the Psalms, and what he had completed was published posthumously in 1631.

Just under 50 scholars were involved in the King James translation, all of them clergymen except one, Sir Henry Savile; they were divided into six companies, two based at Oxford, two in Cambridge and two at Westminster, and each company was given responsibility for translating a specified part of the Bible. Among these 50 were some leading churchmen of the day, and also two of the four puritan delegates at the Hampton Court Conference



including John Rainolds – in other words, this was a scholarly enterprise including all wings of the church, bringing together individuals, under royal patronage, who were divided on other issues such as ceremonial conformity. The rules drawn up in 1604, before the translators set to work, indicate that this was to be a genuinely collaborative work. The foundation text was the Bishops' Bible, used in many parish churches since 1568; once each company had settled on changes for their allocation, they should confer with the other five companies, and finally, delegates from each company should meet in London to produce the finished product. The translators drew on all available translations, in many different languages, ancient and modern. There's a famous description how the final revising group operated:

'That part of the Bible was given to him who was most excellent in such a tongue and then they met together; one read the translation, the rest holding in their hands some Bibles of the learned tongue (eg Hebrew, Greek, Syriac) or French, Spanish, Italian, etc; if they found any fault they spoke, if not he read on.'

That gives us a real sense that the work of translation was slow, careful, meticulous, painful work. And what of James I's own part in the translation? He helped frame the instructions in 1604, and thereafter

intervened periodically to encourage the companies to finish their work. There's no record of his reaction when the translation was finally published; indeed, we don't know exactly when it appeared in 1611, and curiously there was no formal order that the King James Bible be used in churches (and therefore it wasn't actually 'the Authorised Version' that many of us call it). Moreover, it was left to the discretion of individual bishops to decide on its introduction in their dioceses. Some, like Bishop Miles Smith at Gloucester (himself a translator), immediately insisted that parishes should buy the new translation, but his opposite number at Peterborough, for example, was slow to encourage its purchase, so that as late as the 1630s, many parishes in that diocese were still using other versions, including James I's pet hate, the Geneva Bible. On the other hand, the King James version was produced in smaller formats, for domestic and personal use, and seems to have found a ready market. By the 1640s, the King James Bible had replaced the Geneva Bible as the most popular English version. It has remained a bestseller from then until modern times, first in Britain and then across the world, especially in the USA: not bad for something produced by a committee!

Kenneth Fincham

Gyp - What's in a name?

Many people (including members of the Cathedral Archives and Library staff) have said or written to say how sorry they were to hear of my dog Gyp's demise in August 2010. "He was one of Bridge village characters", said one friend. So here are a few words about him.

He was one of a litter born to working Border Collies belonging to the local shepherd, Dan Hopper. It was at the time of the last-but-one Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops. My husband and I had offered to have either the Bishop of the Arctic or the Bishop of Tasmania for their free weekend. However, these gentlemen were "taken" and we agreed to welcome the Right Reverend Arthur Jones, Bishop of Gippsland, Victoria, Australia and Mrs Valerie Jones. I

had written asking them what they would like to do, "To see the Kent countryside" they replied. So off we drove up the valley, the bishop in his full purple robe, arriving at Mr and Mrs Hopper's home, to combine the Jones's wish with choosing a puppy from the litter. These were only a few weeks old and we chose the first to appear – mainly black, with some white and brown. Needless to say, the shepherd and the bishop got on well over a cup of tea, even in the absence of crook and crozier!

We later heard something about Sir George Gipps, after whom Gippsland was named, from Bridge village historian, the late John Williamson. There is a memorial to Sir George, Governor of New South Wales, in the Cathedral. So what could we name our puppy but Gyp?

Ann Shirley

Recent Archives Accessions

Parish Records

Barham, St John the Baptist (U3-163)

Parish magazines, 1978-1981

Buckland next Dover (U3-112)

Parish magazines, 1960-1973 & 1978-1984

Challock, SS Cosmos and Damien (U3-27)

Tithe award, 1841

Chillenden, All Saints (U3-156)

Tithe map with altered apportionment, 1843

Chislet, St Mary (U3-55)

Vestry minute book, 1840-1992

Monumental inscriptions, 1887

Deal, St Leonard (U3-95)

Transcripts of marriages, 1559-1619

Transcripts of burials, 1559-1679

PCC accounts books, 1961-2009

Treasurer's reports, 1986-2010

Parish magazines (Home Words), 1896-1903

Folkestone, St Mary and Eanswyth (U3-88)

Register of baptisms, 1967-2007

Register of baptisms (for Royal Victoria Hospital), 1963-1970

Register of banns, 1981-1987

Register of marriages, 1956-1993

Registers of services, 1983-2001

Register of church welcomers, 1989-2002

Kingsdown, St Catherine (U3-259)

Licence to solemnize marriages, 1955

Lynsted, St Peter and St Paul (U3-U248)

Marriage licences, 1940-1947

Papers relating to the chancel, 1940-1948

Papers relating to the vicarage, 1928-1941

Papers relating to the churchyard, 1927-1959

Papers relating to the church, 1925-1952

Papers relating to the 'Sick and Needy Poor Fund, 1936

Funding stock, 1925, 1939

Various insurance policies, 1935-1964

Certificate of Tithe Redemption, 1944

Nackington, St Mary (U3-108)

Register of banns, 1823-2009

Register of marriages, 1838-2008

Register of services, 1939-1966

Licence to officiate, 1921

Papers relating to the churchyard, 1922-1971

Terrier of land, 1841-1842

Notice relating to the Pastoral Measure Act, 1990

Account books, 1945-1966

Papers relating to the chancel, 1909-1940

Papers relating to the church, 1905-1970

Papers relating to churchwardens' property, 1932-1983

Papers relating to the Church Rent Charity, 1921

Papers relating to the Wallis Land Charity, 1841-1843

Book of Common Prayer, 1750

Visitors book, 1922-1976

Ramsgate, Holy Trinity (U3-223)

Vestry minute book, 1873-1881

(includes service register, 1873-1880)

Ramsgate, Christ Church (U3-226)

PCC minute books, 1984-1998

St Andrew's Reading Street (U3-291)

Register of baptisms, 1911-1969

Sutton by Dover, SS Peter & Paul (U3-142)

Register of baptisms, 1907-20110

Parish charities minute book, 1967-2004

Thanington, St Nicholas (U3-126)

PCC payment and receipts, 1992-1993

Parish Council Records

Chestfield Parish Council (PC5)

Parish Council minutes, 2000-2007

Balance sheets, 2000, 2002-2004

Annual returns, 2002-2004

Parish Council magazines, 2003-2008

Other historic documents, 1987-2010

Recent Library Accessions

Derek Bright, *The Pilgrims' Way*, The History Press, 2011

David Coke and Alan Borg, *Vauxhall Gardens: A History*, Yale University Press, 2011

Brian Cummings (ed.), *The Book of Common Prayer: 1549, 1559, and 1662*, OU, 2011

Trevor Cooper & Sarah Brown (eds.), *Pews, Benches and Chairs: Church seating in English parish churches from the fourteenth century to the present*, The Ecclesiological Society, 2011

Margaret Ford, *An Evangelical Family Revealed: The Bickersteth and Monier-Williams Letters and Diaries 1880-1918*, Ford Publishing, 2010

David N. Griffiths, *The Bibliography of the Book of Common Prayer 1549-1999*, The British Library & Oak Knoll Press, 2002

David Pearson, *Books as History*, The British Library, and Oak Knoll Press, 2011

Richard Stemp, *The Secret Language of Churches and Cathedrals: Decoding the sacred symbolism of Christianity's Holy Buildings*, Duncan Baird, 2010

History Centre Update

The construction of the new Kent History and Library Centre is now almost complete with the building due to be handed over to the County Council shortly. The next stages are the fit-out of the interior spaces and the move of the archive collections into the building. The developers have been monitoring the conditions in the archive repositories since June to make sure that they are right before the archive collections are moved in. A representative from The National Archives inspected the site recently, prior to approving the move of public and manorial records into the building.

As I'm sure you're aware the Centre for Kentish Studies and East Kent Archives Centre closed on 11th November to enable staff to concentrate on the preparations for the move. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

The work to prepare the collections continues with the focus now turning towards our outstore at Kings Hill. Many of the records there need re-packaging and boxing. Alongside the physical preparation of the collections, staff are also continuing with work to digitise as much material as possible in order to widen access to the archive collections to people across Kent. Recently over 45,000 pages of council records dating back to the first meeting of the county council were made available on our website. Over 6000 images are already available through our online catalogue and more will be available by the time the centre opens in Spring 2012. In addition many records which are used for family history are being digitised. These include parish and probate records which will be made available in the new centre via a new access system currently being developed.

The staffing review is now complete with staff

appointed to new roles in the Community Cohesion and Heritage Team. These roles will allow the service to operate in new ways, in particular to make new links with communities across Kent, as outlined in *Understanding Our Past Changing Our Future*, the new service development plan for the service. Staff will start in their new roles on 1st January although it is likely that the initial focus for everyone will be the final preparations for the move and then the move itself!

As you are aware the partnership between the county council, the Dean and Chapter and Canterbury City Council will end at the end of February 2012. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who have worked at the Cathedral Archives over the years, making the partnership a success and providing a high quality service for customers. I would also like to thank our partners, the Dean and Chapter and the City Council, for their input into what has been a successful and productive partnership over the 22 years it has operated. We look forward to working with both partners in new ways once the new history centre is open and the Cathedral Archives and the Beaney have re-opened.

Finally I'd like to thank all the customers who have used and supported the service over the years.

Stuart Bligh
History Services Development Manager
Kent County Council

Dates for your Diary

Christmas opening

23rd December to 27th December: Archives and Library closed

28th December to 29th December: Archives open; Library closed

30th December to 2nd January 2012: Archives and Library closed

3rd January 2012: Archives and Library reopen

26th January 2012, 7pm, Archives searchroom

'Composers and Religion under Soviet Rule': lecture delivered by Dr Antony Copley for the Historical Association. Non-HA members are asked for a small contribution.

31st January

This is the last day before the Cathedral Archives closes for refurbishment. Please join us for tea and cakes on this day, at 3.30pm.

1st February to 13th February

The Cathedral Library will be closed, in order to facilitate work required by the Archives closure. The Dean and Chapter apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

18th February, 1pm to 4pm

Bagpuss's Birthday Party, Canterbury Heritage Museum

Family activity day: meet Bagpuss, Britain's best-loved cat and celebrate his birthday with a range of fun activities Included in standard museum entry price. Special entry price for Canterbury District Residents Card holders £3 adults £2 concessions. All children go free.

13th March, 6.30pm, AV Theatre, Canterbury Cathedral Lodge

'Magic toads and twitching frogs: two natural history books from the seventeenth century': lecture by Dr Charlotte Sleigh, investigating two unusual items in the collections of Canterbury Cathedral Library.

Free lecture; refreshments available from 6pm.

15th May, 6.30pm, Auditorium, Canterbury Cathedral Lodge

The Annual Archives and Library Lecture, given by Dr Judith Maltby, to mark the 350th anniversary of the Book of Common Prayer

An invitation...

Staff of Canterbury Cathedral Archives and Library invite you to festive drinks on Friday 16th December 2011 at 2.15pm in the Archives Searchroom.

This will be an opportunity to say farewell to Mark Bateson, Sheila Malloch and Sarah Stanley who will be taking up new posts in Maidstone in the New Year.

RSVP Daniel Korachi-Alaoui

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