

OBITUARIES

ALAN EVERITT

Alan Everitt, who died in December 2008 at the age of 82, was a distinguished historian who helped forge a new identity for local history that places it nowadays among the favoured branches of historical study. He was brought up in Sevenoaks, educated at Sevenoaks School and roamed freely in his childhood through the local woods overlooking the Weald. He read history at St Andrews University and returned to Kent to work for a PH.D. at London University, studying Kentish gentry in the Civil War. This was political history, focusing on a socially distinctive County in which kinship and the rule of partible inheritance shaped local loyalties and significantly affected the course of events. The ensuing book *The Community of Kent and the Great Rebellion* (1966) prompted a lively debate for its unexpected angle on provincial strategies at a time when academic historians were giving much attention to the causes of the war and its outcome.

When H.P.R. Finberg took over from W.G. Hoskins as head of the English Local History Department at Leicester University, he launched the Agrarian History of England and Wales project (in 1956). Everitt became my research assistant and for three years we shared the excitement of working in complete harmony on this neglected aspect of local history. Local history and agricultural history expanded together and shifted Everitt's interests away from politics to an absorbing examination of economic and social structures on provincial landscapes. With Hoskins returning to Leicester in 1963 Everitt relished learning still more of landscape history. They were both tuned in to the same unique kind of topographical study as was shown later by Everitt's own original and deeply researched book on Kent, *Continuity and Colonisation: the Evolution of Kentish Settlement* (1986). Everitt succeeded Hoskins in the Hatton chair of English Local History in 1968 from which post he retired in 1982. He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1989.

In retirement, despite failing health, he found a new subject of consuming interest, the extent of common lands still existing in England in the nineteenth century. He sought them out in every county and developed a great admiration for the ingenuity of poor working people exploiting

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these free resources to get a living in multiple ways, making everyday items like brooms, brushes, clothes pegs and baskets.

Alan Everitt was a fluent, friendly writer who was prominent in making landscape history a popular subject which has made everyone sensitive to the fine detail of our natural and man-made environment. We now see on all sides efforts to identify, appreciate and protect its distinctive character and for that we owe a huge debt to local historians such as Hoskins and Everitt for opening our eyes.

JOAN THIRSK

HAROLD GOUGH

Harold Gough died in June 2008 at the age of 87. He was a life-long resident of Herne Bay and the one person who had a comprehensive knowledge of the history and archaeology of the district. He was born in 1921 and attended the Simon Langton school in Canterbury. He joined Herne Bay Library in 1938 and remained there all his working life (apart from service in the Second World War) until retirement in 1983. He was fortunate in his friendship with Dr Tom Bowes, an experienced antiquarian, who greatly encouraged Harold's interest in all aspects of the past.

For over 50 years Harold was Curator of the Herne Bay Historical Records Society. The Society has published a number of books and he had a hand in all of them. *Herne Bay's Piers*, published in 2002, was authored by Harold and has long been sold out. An expanded second edition has been published in his memory.

Harold was a member of the KAS for 60 years and contributed several fine articles to *Archaeologia Cantiana*, fruits of his careful researches, including the study of the Archbishop's Palace at Ford, Hoath, in the Detsicas/Gravett memorial volume (2001). He readily provided useful local knowledge of Reculver manor to inform the Society's website publications on The Kentish Hundred Rolls and the Kilwardby Survey.

He and his wife, Anne, participated in Brian Philp's Reculver Excavation Group from 1957-90. Harold was also active in the Kent Family History Society and the Friends of Herne windmill.

Harold's knowledge of Herne and Herne Bay's past was second to none and this delightfully modest man will be greatly missed. His career is a fine example of the value of local historians with an intimate understanding of a particular area. Without such founts of local knowledge so much that is written and published about the past would be superficial indeed.

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BRIEF NOTES ON THE CONTRIBUTORS

Tim Allen: is a professional archaeologist and historian who has worked in Kent for over 20 years developing a particular interest on coastal archaeology.

Nicola Bannister, PH.D., A.I.F.A.: is a freelance landscape archaeologist of twenty years experience with a special interest in the woodland archaeology of the South-East and in particular the woodland landscapes of the Weald. She is one of the founding members of the South East Woodland Archaeology Forum (SEWAF) set up in early 2007 to provide a platform for advice and dissemination on all aspects of the history and archaeology of woodland landscapes (contact David Brown at sewaf@lycos.co.uk for further details).

Debbie Bartlett, B.SC., M.SC., CERT. ED., M.L.I., M.I.E.E.M.: is a landscape architect and ecologist who divides her time between working as Senior Lecturer in Environmental Conservation (University of Greenwich) and as a freelance consultant. She has extensive experience of landscape history and its importance for informing current management. Current projects include research into conservation grazing and the coppice industry; she has recently completed an oral history project focusing on changes in farming over the last fifty years.

Claire Bartram, PH.D.: is Lecturer in Renaissance Studies in the English and Language Studies Department at Canterbury Christ Church University. Her research endeavours to be interdisciplinary and she is primarily interested in book culture in provincial society. Current projects include the editing of a collection of essays entitled 'Contexts for Reading and Writing in Renaissance Society: c.1450-1650' and the development of a monograph on gentry writers in Elizabethan Kent.

Les Capon: has twenty-five years experience within varying aspects of the heritage industry ranging from field excavation to the publication of archaeological results, with an interest in all periods, but tending to the post-medieval following work at Chatham dockyard, Rochester, East Sutton and Ingress Abbey. He has worked for AOC Archaeology since 1996, latterly as Project Officer for larger excavations and historic building recording. During this time he has been involved in artefact illustration as well as giving talks and lectures.

Anthony Durham, M.A., PH.D.: is a semi-retired scientist and computer consultant who lives and works in Greenwich. Both he and his co-author (Michael Goormachtigh, see below) live in historic towns up-river from the Channel. From their English/Welsh and Flemish/French backgrounds respectively, they find

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linguistic chauvinism rather silly. They have written a follow-up paper on 'Chalk, Cray, and the Origins of English', and are working on a book provisionally entitled 'How Old is English'.

Martyn Ellis, M.A. (HONS), M.A., P.G.C.E.: is a secondary school teacher of Humanities and Law. He was educated at Maidstone Grammar School where he was taught History by the headmaster, Dr Pettit, who once referred to Kent as a 'notoriously rebellious county'. Interested by this comment he investigated the subject and later completed an Advanced Diploma in Local History at Cambridge University. His paper is an adaptation of the thesis submitted for that course. His research continues.

Lorraine Flisher, PH.D.: graduated with a first class degree from Canterbury Christ Church University as a mature student; and completed her PH.D. on 'Cranbrook and its Neighbourhood Area, 1570-1660' (supervised by Michael Zell at Greenwich) in 2003. Since then she has worked with Adam Nicholson on the Baker family at Sissinghurst, and has done research for the John Hayes Project on Canterbury poll tax records. She is a full-time civil servant.

Paul A. Fox, M.A., F.R.C.P.: is a physician, medical researcher and educator who devotes his spare time to writing and lecturing on the subjects of heraldry and genealogy, with a particular focus on Kent. He is a Trustee of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies in Canterbury and a Council member of the Heraldry Society.

Deborah Goacher: has lived near Maidstone for over forty years, and is co-founder of a small Maidstone brewery. Moving to a medieval house in 1994 sparked an interest in medieval buildings, followed by associated documentary study and archaeology, aided by adult education. She is actively involved in the KAS and the Maidstone Area Archaeological Group, and has undertaken voluntary work on the Kent Historic Environment Record. Currently she is assembling material relating to Kent from the early Pipe Rolls of the Exchequer.

Michael Goormachtigh lives in Brugge, Belgium, and works with computer databases. He speaks Dutch, French, English, German and Spanish. He runs a web site www.proto-english.com. (See also Anthony Durham, above.)

David Killingray, B.SC(ECON), PH.D., F.R.HIST.S: is Professor Emeritus at Goldsmiths College, a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London, and Visiting Professor in Local History at Kingston University. He has written books and articles on aspects of African, Caribbean, British Imperial, and English local history, and co-edited *An Historical Atlas of Kent* (2004). His latest book, *Fighting for Britain: African soldiers in the Second World War*, is due for publication this year.

Keith Parfitt, B.A., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.: has been excavating in Kent for more than 35 years. Hons degree in British Archaeology at University College, Cardiff, 1978. Employed with Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit between 1978 and 1990, working on a variety of excavations across Kent and south-east London. Moved to

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the Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 1990 and worked on the Dover A20 project which culminated in discovery of the Bronze Age Boat in 1992. Running parallel with full-time career, Director of Excavations for amateur Dover Archaeological Group, also since 1978. Has served on KAS Fieldwork Committee since 1992 and acted as Director for KAS excavations at Minster, 2002-2004. Elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 2000. Co-directed a joint project with the British Museum excavating the complex Bronze Age barrow site at Ringlemere, 2002-2006. Presently engaged in writing up Ringlemere and fieldwork on other Kent sites.

Simon Pratt, B.A. (HONS): is a project manager at the Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

Jayne Semple, B.A., F.S.A.: has degree in history, University College London, 1954. Diploma in Local History, University of Kent, 1982. Lived and worked in Plaxtol 1969-96 recording vernacular architecture and researching the medieval documentary history of the Hundred of Wrotham. President of the Plaxtol Local History Group. From 1990 lectured on English and French medieval architecture for the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies. Now lives in Bath but continuing work on Wrotham.

Seiichi Suzuki, PH.D., F.S.A.: is Professor of Old Germanic Studies at Kansai Gaidai University, Japan. He has written extensively on comparative Germanic linguistics and philology as well as on early Anglo-Saxon archaeology. His major publications include *Anglo-Saxon Button Brooches* (Boydell, 2008), *The Metre of Old Saxon Poetry* (Brewer, 2004), *The Quoit Brooch Style and Anglo-Saxon Settlement* (Boydell, 2000) and *The Metrical Organization of Beowulf* (de Gruyter, 1996).

Michael Zell, PH.D.: emigrated from California to research the history of Kent. His 1974 PH.D. thesis was on the Reformation in Kent. He became a lecturer at the University of Greenwich (then Thames Polytechnic) the following year, and retired as Reader in History in 2008. He has published *Industry in the Countryside: Wealden Society in the 16th Century* in 1994 (CUP) and edited *Early Modern Kent, 1540-1640* for the Kent History Project in 2000. He has also published several articles in *Archaeologia Cantiana*. He now works for the Open University and Goldsmiths College, London University.

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