

NOVEMBER MEETING

Diary of a Dig A talk by Rob Baldwin Reported by Terry Sutton

How today's archaeologists, using carbon-dating and other modern aids, are correcting some of the accepted findings of yesteryear, were described at The Dover Society's open meeting in November.

Rob Baldwin, with a degree in archaeology, spoke of the digs by Canon Robert Jenkins who was on the search for the remains of a seventh century Anglo-Saxon masonry-built church in the village of Lyminge where he was the parish priest. He came to some accepted conclusions now believed to be incorrect by Mr Baldwin and his team who have recently completed more detailed excavations.

"We believe that Canon Jenkins made up quite a lot. Some of his work was a huge exercise in imagination," he told his audience.

His talk, using screened maps and plans, described the archaeological excavations

carried out over the years for the foundations of the seventh century brick-built church (circa 644 AD), discovered next to the existing Norman-built church in Lyminge. The archaeologists had been fortunate that the historic findings had not been too much disturbed by modern day housing development.

The talk covered much information about the early day importance of Lyminge with its "feasting hall" monastery, and links with Aethebert, the sixth century king of Kent.

Mr Baldwin recalled the departure of the Romans from England, with the end of Christianity in Britain, resulting in Aethebert in 597AD inviting the Pope in Rome to send missionaries to England to revive Christianity with the founding of churches and monasteries including one at Lyminge which became an important religious centre

AGM

A reminder to all members

The Annual General Meeting this year will be held in St Mary's Parish Centre, Dover at 7.30pm on Monday 17th April 2023

All resolutions for discussion and nominations for officers and committee members must be received by Friday 31st March 2023. They should be supported by a proposer and seconder and nominations must include the written consent of the potential candidate, then submitted in writing to,

Acting Secretary: Jeremy Cope. 53 Park Avenue, Dover. CT16 1HD

Tel: 01304 211348. Email: jeremycop@willersley.plus

As this is the last of the winter meetings until October and the most important meeting of the year all members are urged to attend.