CANTERBURY HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Maidstone and the Pilgrims' Way Churches

WEDNESDAY, 10th JULY 2019

Our church visits this year are to three churches in the Maidstone area. We start with Detling at 10 and then move to Boxley for 11.15. From 12.30 to-2pm we will have a lunch break in Maidstone before assembling at All Saints at 2pm. We will leave to return to Canterbury about 3.30pm. We hope to have a short introductory talk at each church before exploring it for ourselves.

St Martin Detling is a small church nestled under the North Downs and part of the Pilgrims Way group. Architecturally it is a mixture of Norman, Perpendicular and late Victorian. Pevsner claims its lectern to be the finest medieval example in the county; it may have come from Boxley Abbey.

All Saints Boxley, another Pilgrims' Way church also nestled below the Downs and separated from the village by a wide grassy space. The present building is 'one and a half churches' according to Pevsner, when in the 13th century the Norman building became too small and another church was built east of its east wall. A 15th century tower replaced the chancel causing the Norman building to be reduced to a vestibule. As well as Victorian features there are also fragments of medieval glass said to be from Rochester Cathedral, but Pevsner is dismissive of them. The funerary monuments date between 1451 and the late 19th century

All Saints Maidstone is the original parish church of Maidstone which in 1395 Archbishop Courtenay was given papal permission to make collegiate; the church was rededicated and rebuilt, becoming according to Pevsner the County's finest Perpendicular church, although it is not spectacular compared to such churches as Lavenham, Louth or St Mary Redcliffe. The main interior features to note are a 'sumptuous' 15th century sedilla and the stalls, most with misericords, in the chancel. Most of the glass is Victorian and the monuments date from1396 to 1850 and include that of Jacob Lord Astley, of Edgehill fame.

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I/we wish to join the excursion and enclose a cheque made payable to Canterbury Historical & Archaeological Society.

Cost: **CHAS members** £23 **Non- members** £24

Name(s): .....

Address: .....

.....

Tel. no. ..... Mobile tel. no. .....

Name and tel. no. of emergency contact: .....

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PICK UP POINT: Please tick as appropriate

New Dover Road P&R 8.45 a.m.( )Bus stop by East Station 9.00 a.m. ( ) Vernon Holme 9.15 a.m. ( )

N.B. The plan is to return to Canterbury by about 5pm traffic permitting!

Please send your completed form with a cheque and a **stamped addressed envelope** for confirmation to: Gill Wyatt, 33 Buckingham Rd Margate, CT9 5SR Tel: 01843294452/07815505870

We are happy to welcome members and guests with impaired mobility on our visits provided that they have a helper who can aid them when necessary. It is advisable to consult the Organiser about access at the venues.