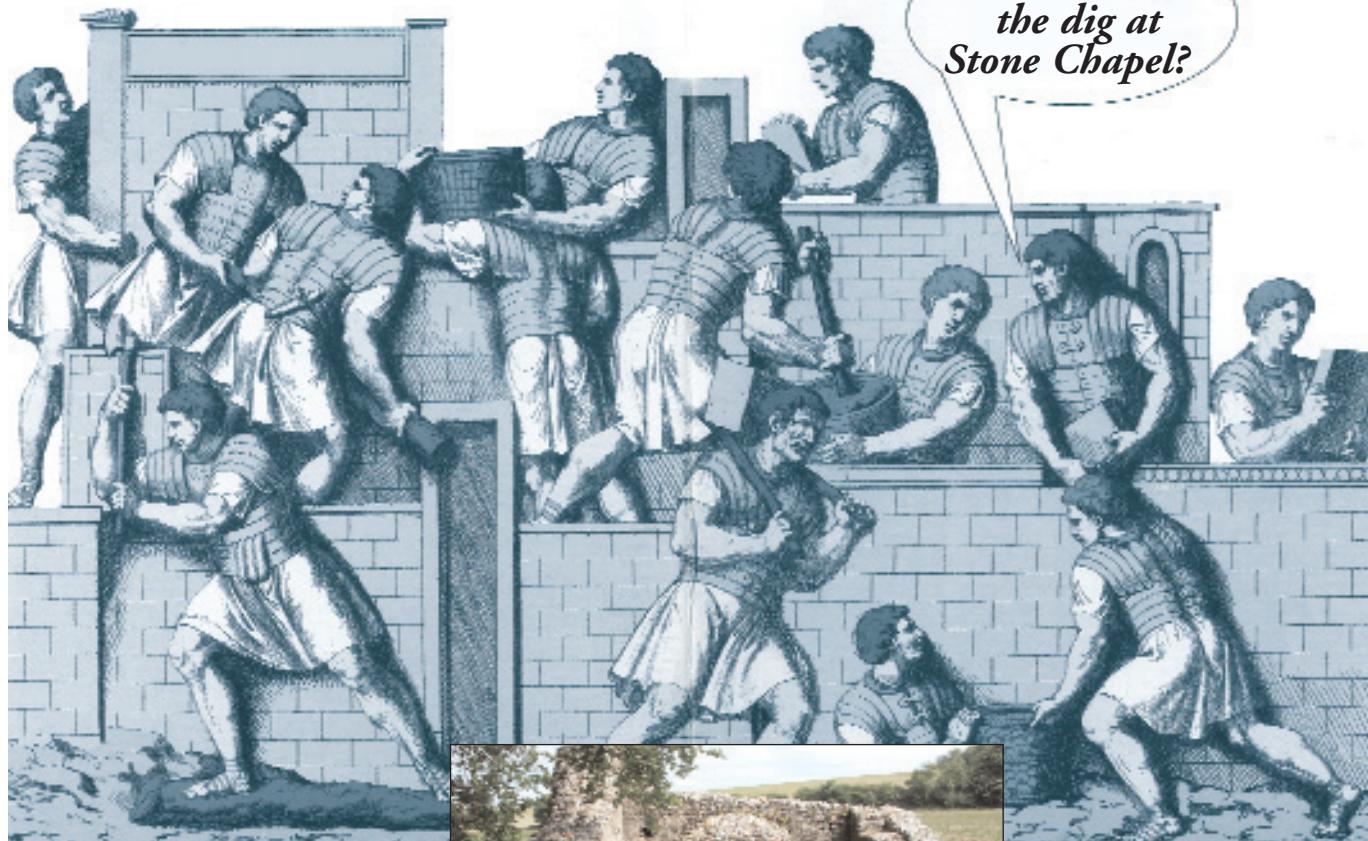


# KAFS Newsletter: No.3.

Kent Archaeological Field School: Autumn-Winter 2005

Heard about  
the dig at  
Stone Chapel?



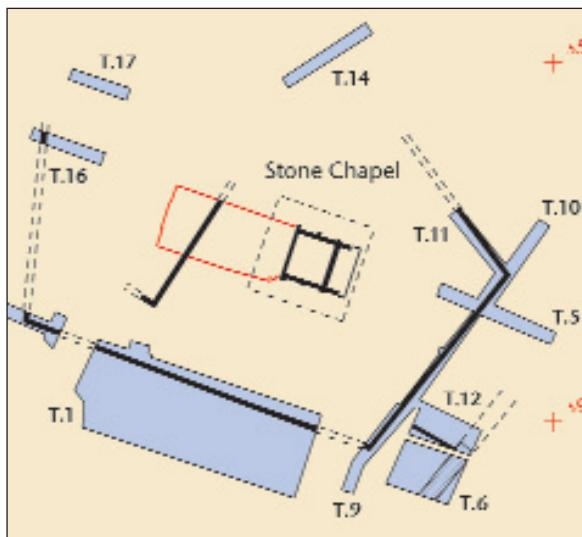
Welcome to the Autumn and Winter issue of the Kent Archaeological Field School Newsletter. It has been a wonderful season of excavation and courses with the Field School getting busier and busier. Great discoveries have been made which will enable us to understand even better the archaeology of Kent. Further work was done on the great Roman aisled barn at Hog Brook

The site plan (right) shows the Anglo-Saxon Stone Chapel - indicated by a red line- built onto the Roman building now shown to have started life as an Romano-Celtic temple. Across the nave of the church another Roman building, first recognised by Meates, is part of this sacred complex. The sacred area is defined by a substantial stone wall found in trenches 1, 7, 9, 11, and 16. Other earlier Roman building were found in T. 12 and T.6., and alongside Watling Street.



which helped to unravel the Saxon use of this huge building. At Stone Chapel Field (*left*) we uncovered evidence of an Roman pagan enclosure surrounding the existing Roman

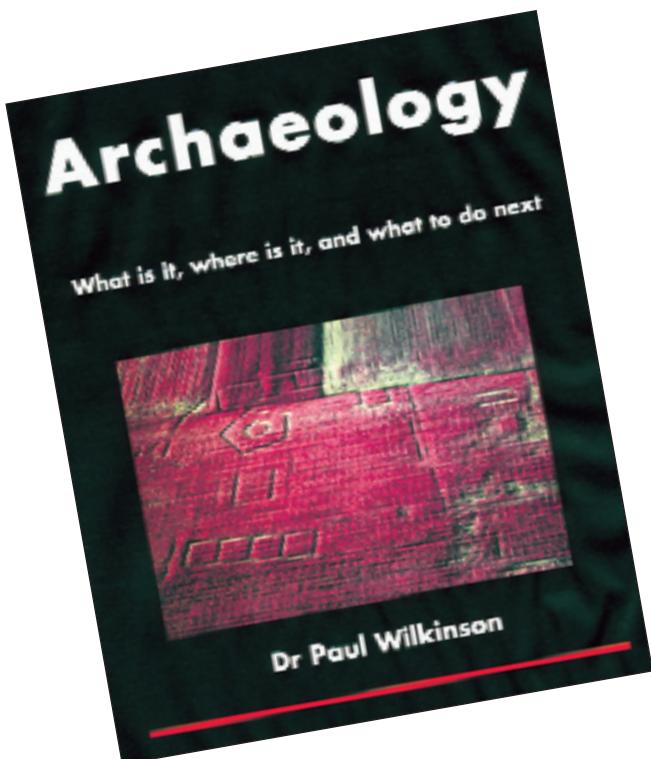
building and attached Anglo-Saxon church, also buildings that were part of the Roman town of Durolevum which adjoined Watling Street. Do join us next summer on more superb courses.



Kent Archaeological Field School  
School Farm Oast, Graveney Road,  
Faversham, Kent, ME13 8UP  
Director: Dr Paul Wilkinson MIFA.

# FIELD SCHOOL NEWS

## New book on Archaeology



A new book by **Paul Wilkinson**, the director of the Field School, will be launched this winter by publishers. The book is a distillation of what is taught at the Field School and many students will find it invaluable in their studies. It is in full colour and covers subjects which are essential reading for today's student of archaeology.

### Order form for *Archaeology*

Pre-publication special offer of £10 plus £2 p&p. If you want a signed copy please put the name at the bottom of the coupon.

Your Name.....

Address.....

.....

Tel No.....

E-mail.....

I enclose a cheque (payable to KAFS) for.....  
signed copies.

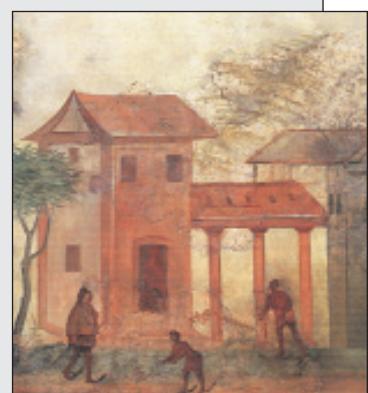
(Name).....

## Roman villas found by students



Last August Bank Holiday students traced an enigmatic field and parish boundary (*above*) that divides Kent into east and west and runs in a straight, surveyed line for some 22km. To the west of

Lynsted we found the boundary had survived as a massive defensive bank and ditch which faced out into East Kent. We will certainly look closer at this, but impromptu field survey located two Roman villas, one to the north at Kingsdown and the other north of Bax Farm (*top left*). At Bax Farm we laid out a grid and dug test pits. These revealed a plethora of Roman building materials including box flue tiles, tessellated floor cubes, and marvellous painted wall plaster pieces. The Roman pottery and coins retrieved show the villa was a high-status building and no doubt will have associated structures as found at the villa at Deerton Street some 3km to the east. We will mount a campaign of excavation in August 2006 - make sure you book in time!



# WINTER EXCAVATIONS

This winter for the first time the Field School is organising a series of weekend "Bare Bones" excavations in an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Bridge for members only. The cost is £45 for the weekend and will include all of the usual facilities- transport to the site, expert tuition and the opportunity to participate in one of the most exciting research excavations ever to be undertaken by the Kent Archaeological Field School.



The two aerial photo's (above) show with some clarity the hexagon shape which on excavation has been identified as a early

Roman cremation site. Surrounding it are Anglo-Saxon graves of which 11 so far have been excavated by the Field School.

For the last 200 years Anglo-Saxon brooches of gold have been found in the vicinity of Bridge. The famous Kingston brooch (above left) found just a mile away from our dig at Bridge is one of the finest examples of the Anglo-Saxon jeweller's art. Paul Wilkinson (above) seen retrieving an 7th century gold pendant with filigree decoration from Grave 5. Also found was a wonderful intact glass palm cup, 14 silver coins and a string of glass blue beads.

## Winter Excavation Booking Form

### "Bare Bones" course dates

February 4th, 5th.....

February 18th, 19th.....

March 4th, 5th.....

Your Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Tel No.....

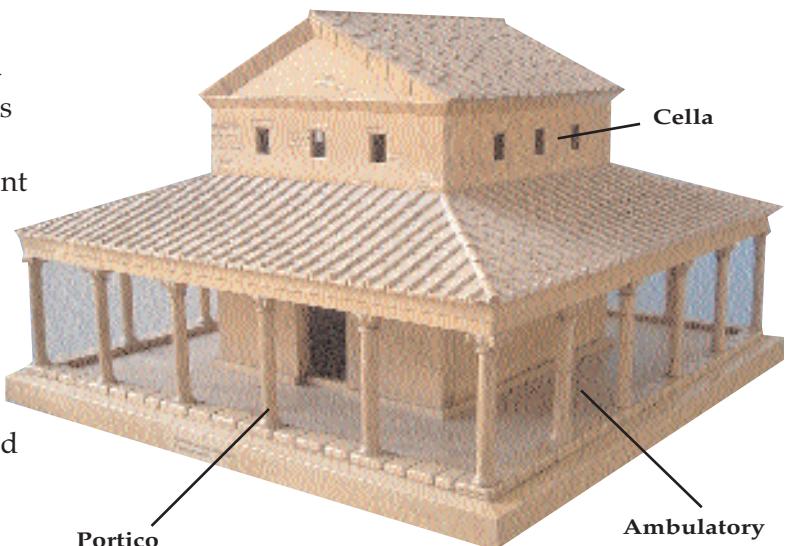
I enclose a cheque (payable to KAFS) for.....

# FIELD SCHOOL NEWS

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## Investigations at Stone Chapel Field

In August archaeological students and members of the Field School descended on Stone Chapel Field, just to the west of Faversham, and adjacent to Watling Street, to unravel a mystery associated with the ruined Roman building that was built on in the Saxon period as a church. This configuration is unique in Britain and the big question was "what was the original function of the Roman building". Two weeks of investigation by almost a hundred students have revealed that the ruined Roman building is almost certainly a Romano-Celtic pagan temple set within its own precinct with



other high-status Roman buildings both inside and outside of the enclosure. These buildings had stone walls and tiled roofs and were finished internally with decorated painted plaster. The precinct wall was massively built of flint nodules set in mortar and overlaid earlier Roman levels. Fragments of stone columns, still showing Roman masonry marks suggest that the ambulatory or portico of the Romano-Celtic temple probably had a sloping roof supported by columns sitting on either an external dwarf wall or stone pads (*above top right*). Meates had excavated Stone Chapel in the 1970's but failed to find evidence of the ambulatory or portico, strongly suggesting the outer wall of the temple did consist of columns, indeed part of a stone column is to be seen built into the nave of the Anglo-Saxon church.

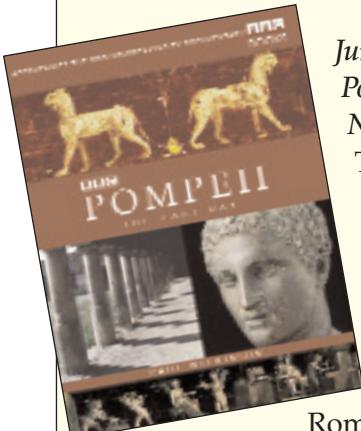


*The summer excavation at Stone Chapel Field in 2006 will run from July 1st, to the 16th. The extent of the Romano-Celtic pagan complex has now been identified by the Field School and excavations of the Roman buildings (along Watling Street) will continue to reveal more about this important site. Already we know that the area is full of Roman buildings which is probably a continuation westwards of the Roman town of Durolevum.*

*The area to be excavated in 2006 is highlighted in red (above, left). Students (far left) can be seen excavating the cobbled floor and hearth of one of the Roman buildings found in Trench 13. Excavation this year has revealed that the Saxon church included a Roman pagan temple which was enclosed inside a stone wall (left) which defined the sacred area of the Roman temple complex. Part of the late Roman walling can still be seen (above left), and was built into the Saxon church.*

# ROMAN HOLIDAY TRIPS

## Imperial Rome, Byzantium, Pompeii, and Roman Germany 2006



*June 17th to 22nd, 2006.  
Pompeii and the Bay of  
Naples*

This trip is for the cognoscenti who have been before but want to spend more time at Pompeii- it includes two days of guided tours of the well-preserved

Roman town of Pompeii and a tour of Herculaneum. We will also visit Cumae, Baiae, Pozzuoli, Oplontis, Boscoreale, the villas' at Stabiae, and the Naples Archaeological Museum. Also included is a free book written by your guide-Dr Paul Wilkinson. The trip costs £998 per person (single £1,249).

*September 16th to 21st, 2006.*

*Imperial and Early Christian Rome* A trip without equal-the marvellous imperial buildings, the mosaic clad churches, a fast moving and full itinerary will take you places few tourists see- including a visit to the Vatican museum.

The trip costs £1,198 per person (single £1,465).

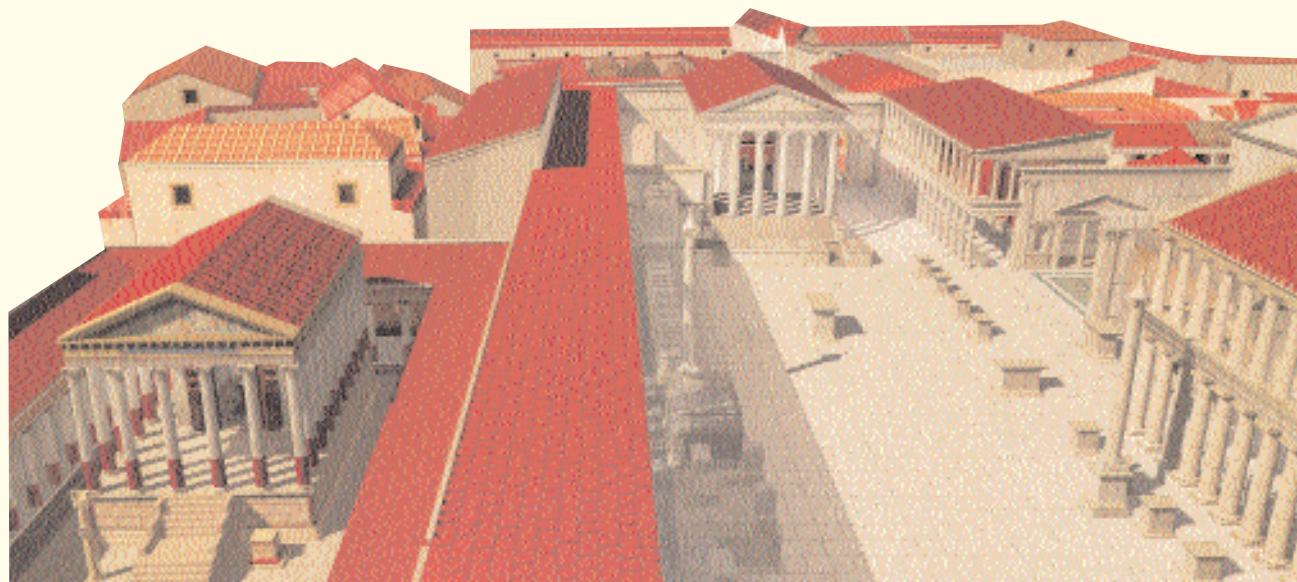


*December 2nd to 7th.  
Winter Trip to Roman  
Germany-2006  
the Edge of Empire*

A tour to the heart of Roman Germanica. Who can forget the opening scene of the film *Gladiator*, set in the Teutoburg Forest? Our tour begins in Cologne, Germany's oldest city on the very edge of Empire. We move on to Xanten and visit the rebuilt Roman town and then on to Saalburg Roman fort high in the German forests where Varus led his legions to disaster. At Trier we will enjoy the Christmas markets and visit all of the Roman monuments. Price £998 per person (single £1,145).



All of the trips fully guided by Dr Paul Wilkinson. Prices include flights, b&b, dinner, some lunches, entrance fees and coach travel. For further details, and to book see:- [www.romanholiday.co.uk](http://www.romanholiday.co.uk) or tel: 01795 532548 e-mail: [info@kafs.co.uk](mailto:info@kafs.co.uk)



# FIELD SCHOOL COURSES

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*KAFS two-day courses cost £70, three-day courses cost £105. Unless otherwise stated, KAFS members enjoy a 10% discount on full prices, except field trips. To book, fill in the form on page 8. For further details of all courses and membership, see: [www.kafs.co.uk](http://www.kafs.co.uk)*



## March 18th & 19th, Field Walking and Historic Map Analysis

Walking across the landscape, and recording features seen on the ground, is fundamental to most rural archaeology. This weekend course

explains how to recognise and record artefacts found within the plough soil. These objects include flint tools, building material, pottery, glass and metal artefacts. We will consider the importance of historic map analysis as part of this procedure.



## Easter, April 14th to April 23rd, Excavation of Anglo-Saxon burials near Bridge in Kent

Our third season of field work and excavation at Bridge. An opportunity for KAFS members to join the professional archaeologists in an opportunity of a lifetime in excavating and recording high-status Anglo-Saxon burials. KAFS member's special fee £30 per day, non-members £35 per day.

## May Bank Holiday April 29th, 30th, May 1st, Roman Roads in Kent

A practical three-day bank holiday course dealing with how archaeologists investigate to prove the existence and route of Roman roads. We will

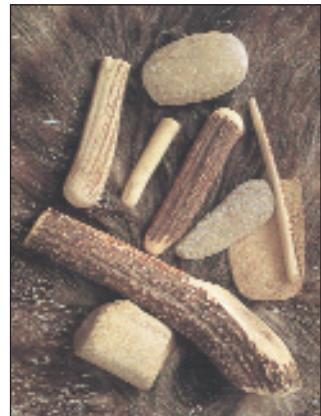


locate, excavate and record a section of Roman road near Eastry and Dover shown on the Peutinger map (left) on the route of the road from Canterbury to the port of Richborough.

## May 6th, 7th, How to Identify Prehistoric Flints

A course on the identification of prehistoric flint and stone with Terry Hardaker who will explain the technology used to produce prehistoric tools from all periods. On Sunday

there will be a practical exercise on field walking for lithics and flint knapping with John Lord, one of the country's leading practitioners of the craft.

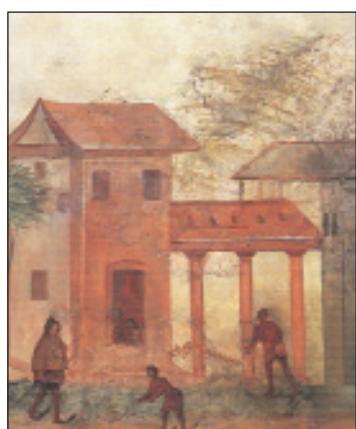


## May 13th, 14th, Geophysical Surveying for Archaeologists

A course on the theory and practice of geophysical survey. Methods from basic optical site levels to laser technology, resistivity and Ground Penetrating Radar will be taught. Practical exercises will take place at Bax Farm, our late summer excavation site.

## May 27th, 28th & 29th, Introduction to Archaeology

A practical three-day bank holiday course on the newly discovered important Roman villa at Bax Farm near Faversham. We will survey the extent of the villa complex prior to our return on August 19th to 28th and sample, through mechanical

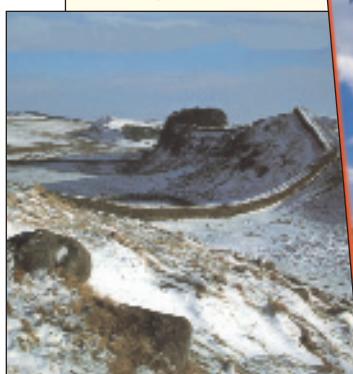


investigation, the extent and quality of survival of the structure. There will be experts on site to date Roman pottery and coins as they are revealed by excavation. This three-day bank holiday course costs £105.

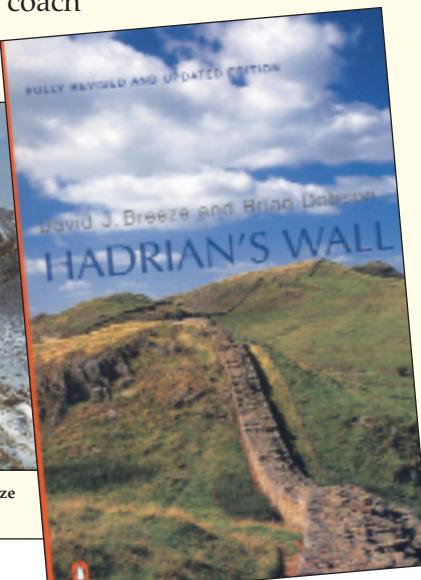
# FIELD SCHOOL TRIPS

## June 10th, 11th, Hadrian's Wall

An exciting trip to the very edge of the Roman Empire with Professor David Breeze author of the definitive work on Hadrian's Wall. We will visit Housesteads, Birdoswald, Vindolanda, Great Chesters, Segedunum, and Arbeia, the Roman supply base of Corbridge and the working replica baths at Segedunum. Price for the weekend is £120, which includes entrance fees and coach travel to sites along the Wall.



Hadrian's Wall by David Breeze and Brian Dobson (right).



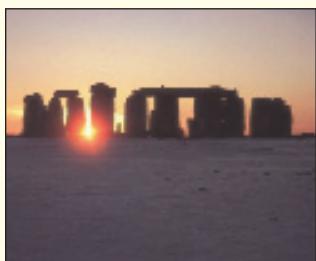
## June 3rd & 4th, Landscape Archaeology

We can trace the history of the landscape by studying historic maps and aerial photographs. During the course of the weekend we will trace, investigate, and record a new site in the very best traditions of Time-Team. This is a recently identified Bronze Age burial mound complex alongside Watling Street just to the east of Canterbury.

## July 1st to 16th, Excavation of Roman Town Houses at Stone Chapel Field, near Synderby

Recent geophysical survey and excavation (right) in the summer of 2005 has identified stone buildings alongside the Roman Watling Street at Stone Chapel Field, just west of Faversham. These buildings are most likely part of the lost Roman town of Duorevum. We will spend sixteen days excavating and recording these Roman buildings in a genuine course of discovery. Beginners are welcome on the Monday 10th July to Friday 14th

## September 9th, 10th, Stonehenge, Avebury, and Silbury



Join us on a journey through the ancient landscape of western Britain. We will travel back in time to a long-lost past and follow in the footsteps of people who built magnificent monuments more than 4,000 years ago and yet left no written accounts of their deeds. Megaliths, long barrows and earthworks stand as impressive markers in a religious landscape and our expert tour leader, Mike Pitts, will reveal the possible meanings of the sites, as well as how they were built and by whom. Mike Pitts is the author of two acclaimed books, *Fairweather Eden* and *Hengeworld* and editor of *British Archaeology*. Price for the weekend is £120 which includes coach travel and a exclusive private dawn visit to Stonehenge.



course, with the option to continue for further days (same daily fee applies). Experienced participants may book the days they wish. Topics taught each day are: Monday: History of the Site & Why dig? Tuesday: Excavation Techniques; Wednesday: Site Survey; Thursday: Archaeological Recording; Friday: Small Finds Recording. KAFS member's special fee £30 per day, non-members £35 per day.

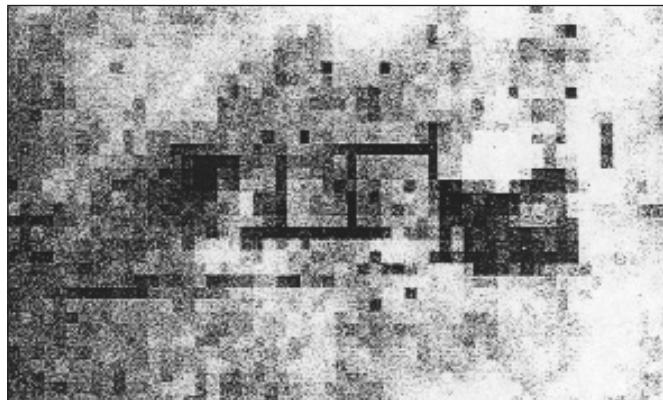
# FIELD SCHOOL COURSES

*More courses in the Autumn. For further details of all courses and membership, see:  
[www.kafs.co.uk](http://www.kafs.co.uk)*

*August 18th to 31st, Excavation of the Roman Villa at Bax Farm, near Faversham*

Investigation in the summer of 2005 has identified a high-status Roman villa to the west of Faversham. This is one of a large number found by the Field School alongside Watling Street. We will spend fourteen days investigating and recording this Roman villa in a genuine course of discovery. Beginners are welcome on the Monday 21st August to Friday 25th course, with the option to continue for further days (same daily fee applies). Experienced participants may book the days they wish. Topics taught each day are:

Monday: History of the Site & Why dig?  
Tuesday: Excavation Techniques; Wednesday: Site Survey; Thursday: Archaeological Recording;  
Friday: Small Finds Recording. KAFS member's special fee £30 per day,  
non-members £35 per day.



*The resistivity survey by Malcolm Davies (above) shows with some clarity the layout of a typical Roman villa found alongside Watling Street. Some eighteen such villas have been located by field-walking and confirmed*

*by geophiz survey. Each square is of one metre, and darker the square the more building material there is buried. The plot shows a villa with three main rooms, a corridor and attached bath-house buried under the soil.*

To become a member and enjoy a 10% discount on courses plus a subscription to Practical Archaeology, tick the box on the right and the forms will be sent to you, or download them from our website — [www.kafs.co.uk](http://www.kafs.co.uk).

## KAFS COURSE BOOKING FORM

Name of Course.....

Date of Course.....

Your Name.....

Address.....

Postcode..... Tel No.....

E-mail address.....

I enclose a cheque (payable to KAFS) for.....

Please send me a KAFS membership form

Return this form to:-

The Kent Archaeological Field School,  
School Farm Oast, Graveney Road, Faversham,  
Kent ME13 8UP. Tel: 01795 532548

Website: [www.kafs.co.uk](http://www.kafs.co.uk) e-mail: [info@kafs.co.uk](mailto:info@kafs.co.uk)

*Please note that courses are bookable in advance only and are non-refundable or transferable. Member's 10% discount does not apply to special fees and field trips. Children over 14 and under 16 years old are welcome on courses, but must be accompanied by an adult; under-16s are not allowed on excavations.*