

By the Nailbourne to the gateway and remains of the Palace used by Archbishops in the Middle Ages. Archbishop Thomas Cranmer lived here and it is easy to visualise him sitting by the fireside in his rooms there, drawing up the first "Book of Common Prayer". Cranmer preached in the church, which has a fine Norman north door. The pre-Reformation stone altar has been sunk in the floor at the foot of the chancel steps. The memorial to Sir Henry Palmer once by the altar was moved to the bell tower by Victorian restorers in order to put in a large window to lighten the east end. The church also has a memorial to Charles Tilestone Beke, an eccentric Victorian explorer of Africa and the Bible lands.

At Patixbourne, the pilgrim route goes up the High Street, past the lodge house to Bifrons Park, a Conyngham estate, and then bears right up a wooded cut through orchards to the Church of St. Martin on the outskirts of Canterbury.

The church of ST. MARTIN, CANTERBURY may well be the oldest parish church in England, having been in continuous use since the 6th century. There are interesting brasses, a squint or leper window, and an early font.

From the church can be seen the tower of Bell Harry of Canterbury Cathedral and our pilgrim goal. *Laudate Deo!*



CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL.

# Enjoy an Exciting Away Day on the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway

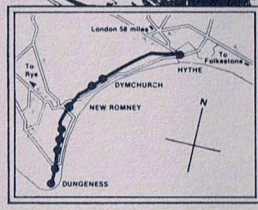
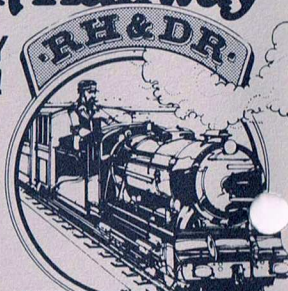
**THE GREATEST FAMILY  
ATTRACTION IN KENT!**

Travel 14 miles across the historic Romney Marshes mostly in steam hauled trains from Hythe to Dungeness via New Romney and Dymchurch. Frequent trains daily in Spring, Summer and Autumn.

- ★ Close to sea and the sands.
- ★ Picnic areas by the lineside at Dymchurch and New Romney.
- ★ Refreshments available at or near all principal stations.
- ★ Visit the fascinating model exhibition at New Romney Station.

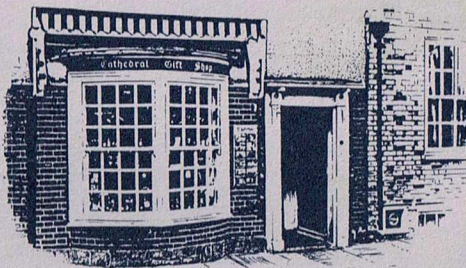
**The World's Only Miniature  
Main Line Steam Railway**

For further details, Party Bookings, etc. write or telephone - The Manager, RH&D Railway, New Romney, Kent. New Romney (0679) 62353



## CATHEDRAL GIFT SHOP

2 and 3 The Precincts, Burgate, Canterbury.



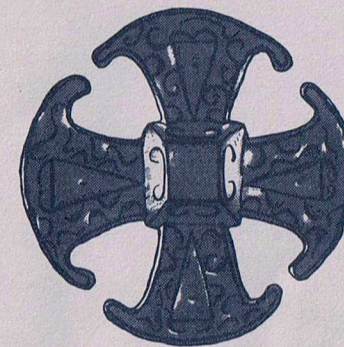
**A Comprehensive Selection of Gifts  
and Souvenirs**

Mail Order Service Available. Tel. 0227 462292.

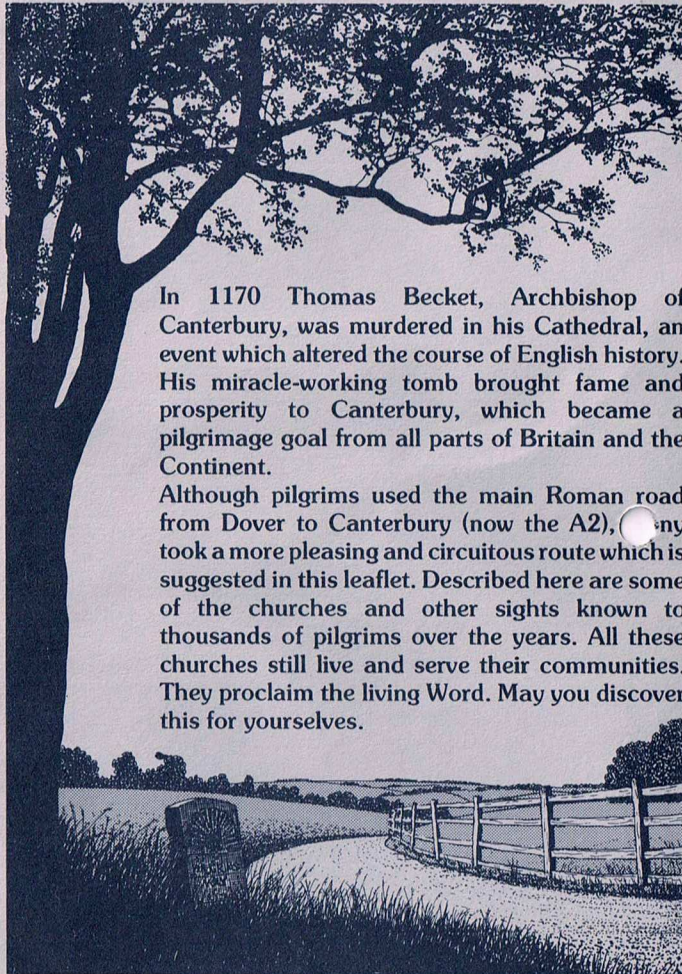
ALL PROFITS GO TO THE CATHEDRAL.

## CHRISTIAN HERITAGE TRAIL

# DOVER TO CANTERBURY



Further information can be obtained from:  
Diocesan House, Lady Wootton's Green,  
Canterbury, Kent CT1 1NQ

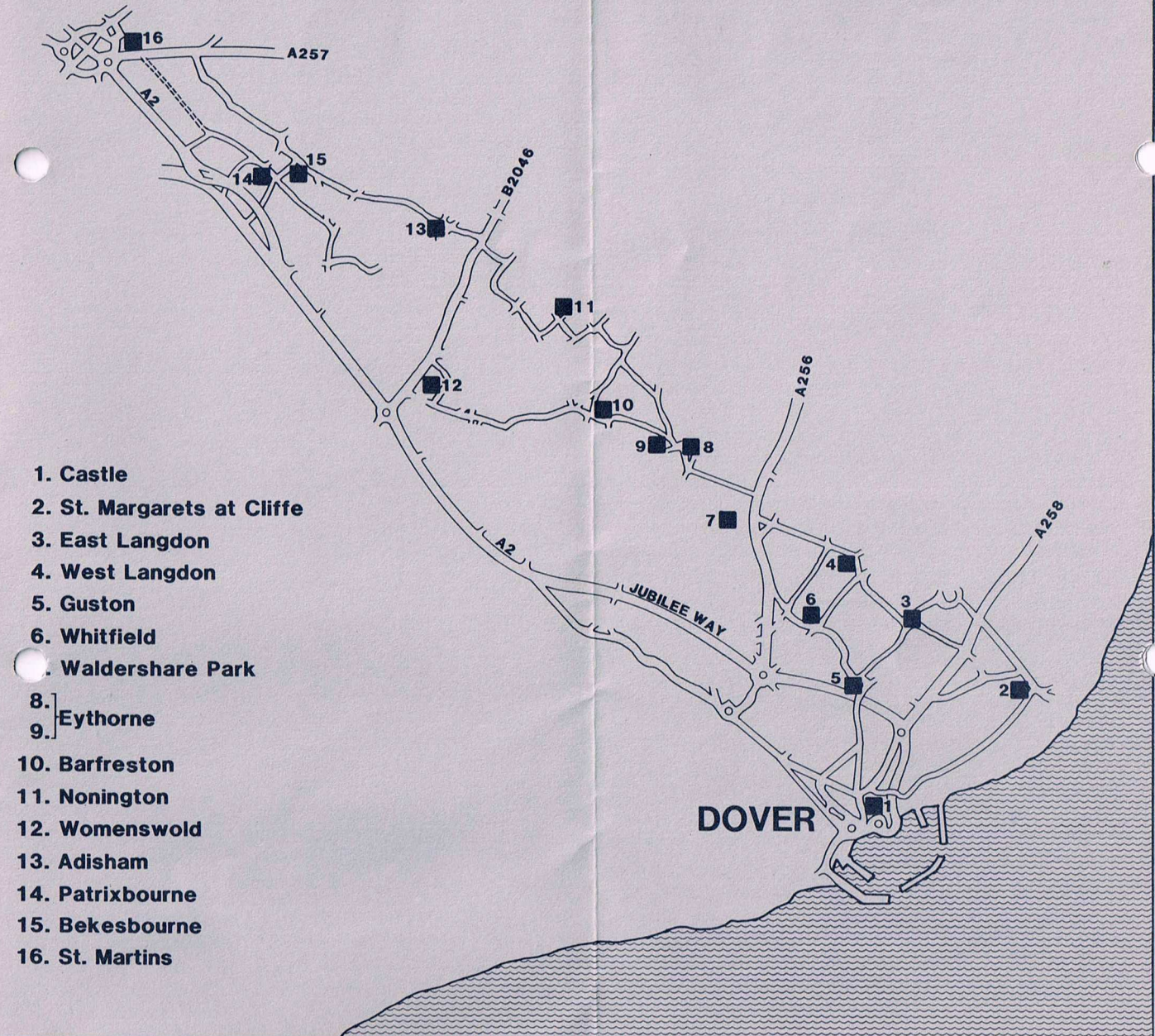


In 1170 Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, was murdered in his Cathedral, an event which altered the course of English history. His miracle-working tomb brought fame and prosperity to Canterbury, which became a pilgrimage goal from all parts of Britain and the Continent.

Although pilgrims used the main Roman road from Dover to Canterbury (now the A2), many took a more pleasing and circuitous route which is suggested in this leaflet. Described here are some of the churches and other sights known to thousands of pilgrims over the years. All these churches still live and serve their communities. They proclaim the living Word. May you discover this for yourselves.

# Churches and Sites of Interest

## CANTERBURY



1. Castle
2. St. Margarets at Cliffe
3. East Langdon
4. West Langdon
5. Guston
6. Whitfield
7. Waldershare Park
8. Eythorne
9. Eythorne
10. Barfreton
11. Nonington
12. Womenswold
13. Adisham
14. Patrixbourne
15. Bekesbourne
16. St. Martins

There are many sights to see in DOVER, the starting point for the trail. Remember it was a principal Cinque Port and remains by far England's premier Continental seaport. In Townwall Street, close to the entry to the Roman and Medieval Port basin, you can see the remains of the church of ST. JAMES, its stonework reddened by fire. From here, you can look back at the cliffs on either side and see where the Roman pharos, navigational lights, stood—the western one by the Redoubt, a Napoleonic War gun fortress; the eastern, a tower still standing by the church of St. Mary-in-Castro at Dover Castle.

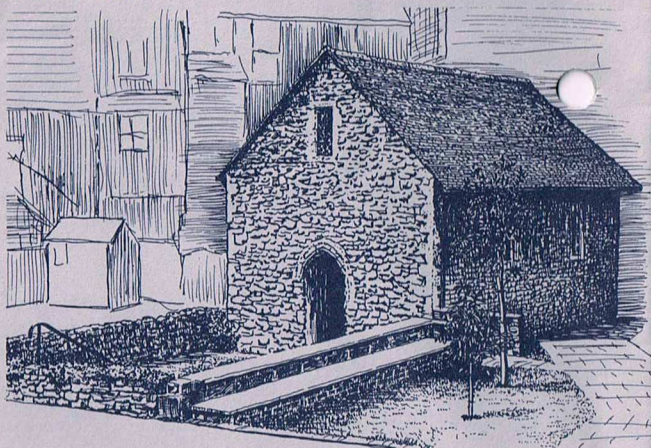
Among Dover's many churches is ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, Cannon Street, possibly of Saxon origin. It has a Norman tower notable for four tiers of arcading on its west front. There is a fine Victorian porch in the north wall.

Further up the road we find the 13th century ST. EDMUND'S CHAPEL in Priory Road. It is the first and only chapel ever dedicated by an English Saint (St. Richard of Chichester in 1253) to the honour of an English Saint—St. Edmund of Abingdon, Archbishop of Canterbury 1234–1240.

Nearby is the MAISON DIEU, founded as a hospice in the early 13th century. Amalgamated with a 19th century Town Hall, it now houses a small museum and exhibition.

To join our trail, pass St. Edmund's and turn almost immediately right into Ladywell. Continue uphill to a T-junction, turning right again into Connaught Road. You join the A258 by Dover Castle.

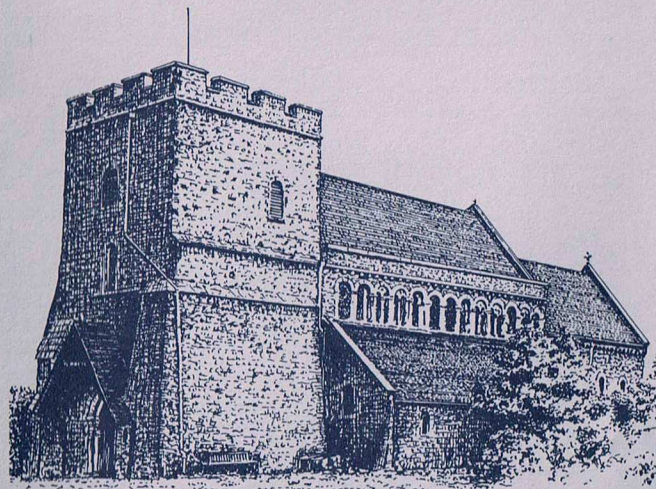
DOVER CASTLE is well worth a visit. Within its grounds is the church of ST. MARY-IN-CASTRO, built of Roman materials early in the 11th century with Saxon work still visible in the nave windows.



ST. EDMUND'S CHAPEL, DOVER.

Rejoining the A258, you can take either the cliff road to the right just after the Castle, obtaining excellent views of the Harbour and Channel shipping, on the way to ST. MARGARET'S-AT-CLIFFE; or an alternative route to Guston (see next column).

The lofty and beautiful ST. MARGARET'S is an early 12th century Norman church, built of Caen stone. The oldest part is the chancel with an unusual arrangement of tall, lancet windows at the east end. The nave has a clerestory with a remarkable external arcade and a richly moulded, north door. The tower once had a steeple which was used for many years as a navigational aid. This part of the Kent coast had smuggling connections and it is easy to visualise the pack-donkeys with loaded hooves being led up from the beach with silks, brandy and tobacco their principal loads.



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH.

The route now continues to the Langdons, East and West. To reach East Langdon take the main road (Station Road) north from the village. Cross the A258 and continue to Martin Mill. Here turn left and follow the road under a railway bridge. Left at the next T-junction and the church can be seen ahead by the village green.

EAST LANGDON parish church, a delightful building, is dedicated to ST. AUGUSTINE and is linked with St. Margaret-at-Cliffe. Look at the medieval tombstones in the churchyard next to a farm. At WEST LANGDON, signposted from East Langdon, the parish church is dedicated to ST. MARY THE VIRGIN. In the village is a large house once the medieval Abbey of White Canons.

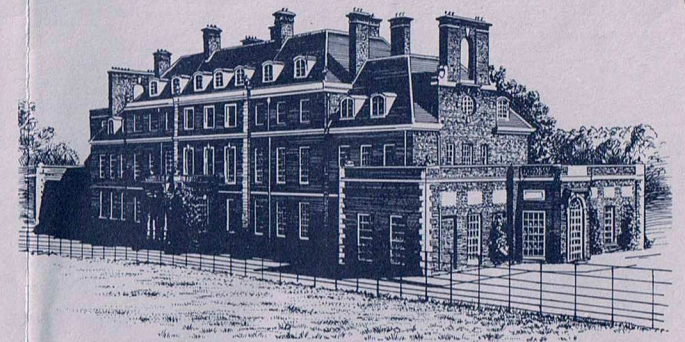
An alternative route from Dover is to go up Castle Hill but head left to Guston and Whitfield. As you pass the Duke of York's school, behind you on the seaward side are remains of Napoleonic War fortifications protecting the eastern flank of Dover Castle. You cross over the new Jubilee Way by bridge and go down the hill to GUSTON.

The church of ST. MARTIN'S, GUSTON, is one of the very early Norman village churches and shows the relative prosperity of East Kent at that time, due to its links with the Continent. The original structure of St. Martin's is flint walled with rough ashlar coins and dressed stones.

Whitfield Church is reached through the small hamlet of Pineham and this takes you back across the line of a Roman road from Dover to Richborough.

ST. PETER'S, WHITFIELD is reached through a modern lych-gate, built at the beginning of the century. It incorporates an early church forming the nave, chancel and east end. The trumpet splayed window above the south porch is original and the gable window high on the west end is also of early origin. The south door was originally very grand, with fine ashlar shafts with scalloped capitals, but now somewhat obscured by the added porch. Inside, the north aisle has been turned into an open "chancel" conveniently laid out for modern worship in a homely and attractive fashion. This arrangement has left the Norman east end, beyond the tall and narrow early chancel arch, as an annexe to the church—an original and striking change of use.

A narrow lane from here links you with the Dover-Sandwich road. Continuing up this lane to WALDERSHARE PARK, on your left, you now rejoin the route up from the Langdons. Turn left after half a mile to approach Eythorne.

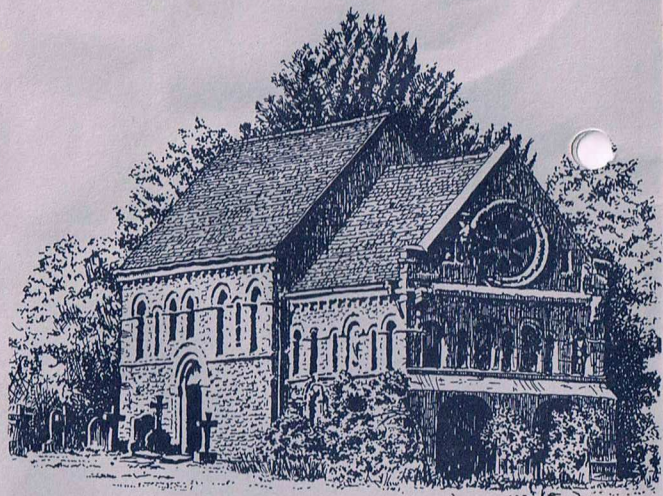


WALDERSHARE PARK.

EYTHORNE BAPTIST CHURCH is discovered on the right of the road. It is a fine building in extensive grounds and is one of the earliest such chapels in East Kent, built in 1804. A little farther on is the Anglican church of ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL. This is another attractive Norman church with a large sunny churchyard extending to the north; a good resting spot on your journey.

Here, you can again split your route, either taking the original road to Nonington, or the narrow road to Barfreston, which is recommended. This interesting road runs over ridges formed by the chalk downs and leads to a junction from where you can see the church on the hillside opposite.

ST. NICHOLAS, BARFREESTON has a nave and chancel of flint, built about 1100. It is lavishly embellished with Caen stone from Normandy, a stone far superior to Kentish ragstone for working and capable of much finer sculpting. This stonework was added about 1173 possibly in celebration of the Lord of the Manor's marriage. The wealth and variety of carvings of this tiny church are world famous and can be dated by the figure of St. Thomas Becket in the second ring of carvings round the tympanum over the south door. Many early pilgrims were visiting Becket's shrine at Canterbury, so would have been keenly interested in the carving of the saint.



BARFREESTON CHURCH.

Heading north from Barfreston, take the first turning right and the next left to the village of NONINGTON.

Here ST. MARY THE VIRGIN is a fine church at the foot of the sloping road, Vicarage Lane just off the main street. Opposite the church, over the road and in a large churchyard is an interesting sermon in stone erected by a former vicar.



ST. MARY'S PATRIBOURNE, SOUTH DOOR.

An alternative route from Barfreston leads to the village of WOMENSWOLD. Stay on the original road to a junction. Here turn right passing through WOOLAGE and a signposted road to the right leads to Womenswold church.

Dedicated to ST. MARGARET, the church sits on a high bank above the village street. Most medieval churches were built on dry elevated land and this was often heightened by the countless burials round the church. This a good example. It is worth mentioning that you will often find the best memorials on the southern side of village churches. This was the sunny side of the building and much sought after! Often the same idea obtained inside the church and a key position for a memorial was on the southern wall by the altar.

The route to Patricbourne splits at this point. You can strike directly on foot for Patricbourne along the original pilgrim's route or bear away north to reach that village through Adisham.

The church of HOLY INNOCENTS, ADISHAM stands proud on a shoulder of hillside overlooking the village. Built of flint, it has a cruciform shape with a central tower—this is unusual in East Kent. The interior is well worth seeing, one thing of note is the great ladder to the tower.

If you take the cross-country route from Womenswold to Patricbourne, it leads through Pitt Wood, past Woodlands—a large house—on the right, and continues after a short climb up a roadway to the original footpath past Chota and Shepherd's Close. A tiny lane takes you down to the valley floor to Patricbourne ford.

Nearby is ST. MARY'S church, PATRIBOURNE. This was an important church at one time, and the now larger church at nearby Bridge was a daughter church to St. Mary's. There is a very fine south doorway, next to Barfreston in importance, with mass clock-holes by the door. Inside you will find some interesting glass, especially the Swiss engraved glass in the southern wall of the Lady Chapel. This was once the chapel of the local family, the Conynghams, and outside you can see the chimney that once let out the smoke from their private fireplace—now sadly vanished from the chapel. Such engraved and etched glass can also be seen at TEMPLE EWELL church just outside DOVER.

If you came by road from Adisham, you will reach Patricbourne by a lane from BEKESBOURNE.

Here is the church of ST. PETER set on a hillside. It is reached through the private gardens of Cobham Court, once the local headquarters for this limb of the Cinque Ports. The Nailbourne stream here was once broad enough for rowing boats to reach sea-fishing areas around the Isle of Thanet.

