

Masters take pride in their best bangers

BUTCHERS Laurie Wakeham and Chris Barkaway have every right to be proud of their bangers — both have become speciality sausage masters.

Mr Wakeham, of Laurie Wakeham Butchers, High Street, Bridge, and Mr Barkaway, from A.J. Barkaway of Ospringe Street, Faversham, have joined the nationwide speciality sausage scheme to highlight the range of special sausages available at independent butchers.

Mr Wakeham said: "The posters and leaflets issued through the scheme let my customers know the wide choice of sausages that I can provide as a local butcher."

Mr Barkaway said that under the master scheme, new ideas are shared nationally adding fresh recipes to his own speciality range.

"I can offer new temptations to my regular customers and entice new customers to try the distinctive range we can offer," he added.



WIDER CHOICE: Laurie Wakeham



NEW TEMPTATIONS: Chris Barkaway

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APRIL 1997

515?

Anglo-Irish elite given wide berth by embassy

BY NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN is turning its back on the remnants of its loyal servants in Ireland after the Ambassador to Dublin ordered the removal of Anglo-Irish aristocrats from the embassy's guest list.

In a stark reminder of the waning influence of the scions of the old Protestant Ascendancy, Veronica Sutherland has told her social secretary that the aristocracy and the landed gentry are no longer central to Irish society. The clipped tones of earls and baronets have now been replaced at the ambassador's parties by the accents of Irish industrialists and leading lights from Dublin's musical and theatrical worlds.

The list of those who have come under the ambassador's disapproving gaze reads like a *Who's Who* of the Anglo-Irish elite. The Earl of Mount Charles, whose forefathers fought with William of Orange at the Battle of the Boyne in 1690, heads the list. It also includes Clementine Beite, a cousin of Nancy Mitford, who lives at the magnificent Russborough House in Co Wicklow, and Chelmsley

lives at Emo Court in Portlaoise.

Yet the members of the gentry and aristocracy all say that they were not aware that they had been removed from the embassy guest list, and they insist that they would never complain, were they considered unsuitable. However, the embassy has been inundated with calls from irate members of the landed gentry who wondered why they had been excluded from parties at Glencairn, the ambassador's splendid Edwardian residence in the south Dublin suburbs.

One prominent peer spoke privately of his anger at the way in which Mrs Sutherland had ignored the Anglo-Irish since she took over as ambassador in 1995.

He said: "The ambassador has never sought my opinion, which means that she is not doing her job properly because she should be canvassing opinions of all strands of thought in Ireland. Previous ambassadors were always keen to hear what we had to say."



JOHN COGILL

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from a different cloth from her Oxbridge-educated predecessors. Educated at the Royal School, Bath, she studied at the Universities of London and Southampton before joining the Diplomatic Service in 1965.

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Welsh during his historic visit to Dublin in 1995.

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families. But that has all changed." Some of the new faces at embassy parties say that the guest lists for Mrs Sutherland's parties always have a well-chosen cross-section of Irish people. James Hickey, the chairman of the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, said: "The parties have a fair

Wide berth by embassy

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The aristocrats point out that Mrs Sutherland, 57, is cut



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One observer of the Dublin diplomatic scene said that the ambassador had wanted a "new broom" to be taken to the guest list when she arrived in 1995. The observer said: "When the ambassador arrived in Dublin she looked down the guest list and asked why so many people with Anglo-Irish connections were invited so regularly. She took a utilitarian view and said that more Irish people should be invited."

The ambassador's new approach faced its first challenge when the invitation list was drawn up for a large party that was held for the Prince of

Wales during his historic visit to Dublin in 1995.

The Earl of Mount Charles, 45, who was once a regular at embassy parties, was initially left off the list until an official at the embassy pointed out that he qualified in his own right as a prominent Irishman regardless of his lineage. The earl, who is a leading member of the governing Fine Gael party who used to stage rock concerts at Slane Castle, was hastily added to the list.

Charles Lysaght, a Dublin barrister who is a veteran of embassy parties over 30 years, said that there were fewer Anglo-Irish at the parties because the elite was in decline.

He said: "When I first went to the embassy there were more Anglo-Irish because they were a power in the land. Major businesses in Dublin were still in the hands of old

families. But that has all changed." Some of the new faces at embassy parties say that the guest lists for Mrs Sutherland's parties always have a well-chosen cross-section of Irish people. James Hickey, the chairman of the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, said: "The parties have a fair old mix including captains of industry, senior civil servants and politicians, and people from the theatre."

"The ambassador has done an excellent job in bringing the parties up to date and making the embassy very accessible."

Mary O'Rourke, the deputy leader of the main opposition Fianna Fail party, described Mrs Sutherland as tremendously hospitable. "The ambassador always has a very interesting mix of people. She is very likeable," Ms O'Rourke said.

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John Perhaps worth placing in your
Bridge history files. He was/is
agent I believe to Brian Mummery
at Gt. Pett Farm and re sale of other
Conyngnam property round here.
AMS. 26/7/97

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(11)

Property

Weekend Telegraph 13

24/5/97

The estate we're in

Now the big house has to go . . . **Peter Birkett** reports on the inheritance of a chauffeur's son

THE final chapter in a remarkable story of a landed benefactor and a chauffeur's son was written last month, when one of Britain's most historic estates went on the market with a price tag of £2 million.

Just seven years after inheriting the magnificent Grade I listed Boughton Monchelsea Place, near Maidstone, in Kent, with all its contents and the lordship of the manor, Charlie Gooch has decided to sell because, he says, he wants his life back.

"It has been the hardest decision I have ever had to make," says Gooch, 43, who is a director of the international property consultant Savills. "But we have finally decided that enough is enough."

Gooch, who has lived on the estate all his life, maintains that both his family life

addressed my father only by his surname and, because he was not very good with women, he used to treat my mother like a servant."

Winch, who was unmarried and an immediate contemporary at Trinity with the Cambridge Apostles Burgess, Maclean, Philby and Blunt, kept a benevolent eye on the young Charlie. "When I was six, he took me off on holiday to Ostend to stay with friends. Then when I was eight he took me on an 18-day trip to Austria where he was researching a book.

"People have said that he was probably homosexual and I suspect he might have been as there were never any women about. But there were no men either and no strange disappearances to suggest he led a secret life."

When Gooch failed his 11-plus and could not get into grammar school, Winch



enough.”
Gooch, who has lived on the estate all his life, maintains that both his family life and career have suffered from the endless work needed to finance the house by opening it to the public.

The story of how Gooch came from living in a cottage in the stable yard to inheriting the 500-year-old castellated mansion, with its glorious views over the Weald of Kent, is an extraordinary one.

It goes back to 1954 when his father's employer, Michael Winch, a former journalist, diplomat and — some say — spy, was himself left the house on the death of his aged aunt, and returned to Britain after Foreign Office postings in Moscow, Warsaw and Bonn.

Gooch's father, Len, a former sergeant-major in the Grenadier Guards who had been Winch's Foreign Office chauffeur, moved into the stables' cottage with his wife, Flossie, and Charlie, then just three weeks old. Len, who had been invalided out of the Guards with shrapnel wounds, asked his master to be his son's godfather.

Michael treated me like a son,” says Gooch. “My childhood was idyllic. I had the run of the place — I played in the deer park and I dammed the streams. He was incredibly tolerant of me.

“But it was a very strange situation. He used to call me Charlie and always referred to me as his godson, but he

suggest he led a secret life.”
When Gooch failed his 11-plus and could not get into grammar school, Winch called him in and told him that he would pay for his education at a public school. Later, when Charlie fluffed some of his A-levels, he paid for him to attend a Brighton crammer and then financed him through Cirencester Agricultural College.

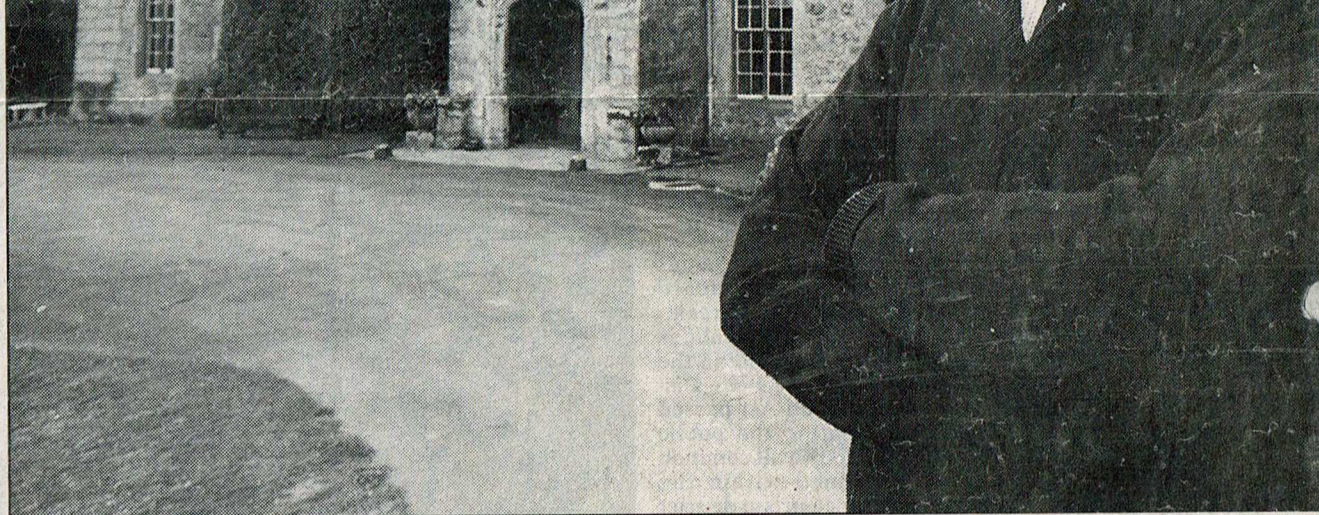
“He was immensely generous and the education he bought me set me up for my career with Savills,” says Gooch. “He simply took me under his wing and changed my life completely. I wouldn't be doing what I do today except for him.

“You wouldn't call him a kind man as such. He wasn't easy. He had a violent temper and could be very difficult to cope with, but he was truly good to me.”

Boughton is first recorded as an estate belonging to the Saxon Earl Godwin and, after the Norman conquest, it was given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, the Bishop of Bayeux who was created the Earl of Kent.

The present house was built of Kentish ragstone between 1551 and 1575 by Robert Rudston, the son of a lord mayor of London, on the site of a medieval timbered hall.

It has been reduced in size over the centuries and now includes five reception rooms, 11 bedrooms and a



Godson and heir: Charlie Gooch outside Boughton Monchelsea Place, Kent, which is on the market for £2 million

staff flat. Behind it lies a series of walled gardens and two ancient courtyards.

The property came into the Winch family in 1902 when Michael's uncle, Colonel George Bluett Winch, bought it from Thomas Cook, the founder of the travel agency

‘He referred to me as his godson, but he used to treat my mother like a servant’

empire. The colonel's son, Anthony, died in the First World War and his adopted son, Desmond, died in the second.

“I remember vividly Michael telling me that he was summoned to Boughton by his uncle soon after the

war,” says Gooch, “and told: ‘One day this will be yours. It wasn't planned that way and it will never be discussed again.’”

Ten years before Michael Winch's death he told Gooch that one day he would inherit. Lawyers drew up a charitable trust but, says Gooch, for a long time Winch refused to sign the papers.

Eventually, he did and Mr Gooch is now the trust's sole beneficiary, and he has spent hundreds of thousands of pounds on improvements to Boughton. He has redecorated throughout and has obtained a licence to marry people at the house.

“A lot needed to be done

when I took it over and Michael left me no cash, just the contents and the house with its 38 years of dilapidation. So, in 1991, we sold a pair of paintings by the early German master Cranach to pay for the work.

“In the past few years I have been concentrating on building up the business and we have dramatically improved turnover. The house now pays for itself — just.

“Despite that, a house like this is never going to make a profit because the more it earns, the more you have to spend on the place.”

But the daily hard work of keeping the house open has taken its toll. “Last year we worked for a period of 14 weeks without a day off,” says Gooch. “People say to

me: ‘How can you bear to part with the house?’ They talk about the view, which, I believe, has nothing to beat it.

“But these days I look out and think: ‘Oh God, another tree has fallen over or there's another fence to repair, or where have all the deer gone?’

“There is that constant worry and, with everything going on here, we simply haven't been able to enjoy the place as a private home.”

For the foreseeable future, however, the Gooch family will still have links with the estate. Gooch's mother, Flossie, regarded by Winch as a servant, and now 78, will continue to live in the Lodge House. “That,” says Gooch firmly, “is not for sale.”

RICH LIST 1997

FRANK WILLIAMS

Motor racing

£50m 360th=

► Williams, 54, is a leader in Formula One. His team won the 1996 championship, but then dispensed with the services of driver Damon Hill. In 1995 Williams Grand Prix made £4m profit and is worth £70m. Williams has a 70% stake. Salaries take him to £50m. (1996: £50m, 307th=)

PETER WOOD

Insurance

£50m 360th=

► Wood, 50, started Direct Line insurance in 1984 with backing from the Royal Bank of Scotland. In 1988 he sold his 25% stake to the bank for a growth-related bonus scheme. Then, in 1993, the bank bought this from him for £24m to avoid the huge payouts. Past salaries and other assets take him to £50m. (1996: £50m, 307th=)

BILL WYMAN

Pop music

£50m 360th=

► Wyman, 60, the former Rolling Stones guitarist, has become an entrepreneur through his Sticky Fingers restaurants. His share of the band's wealth is more than £30m. His other assets take him to £50m. (1996: £35m, 467th=)

JOHN and ANN YERBURGH

Beer and pubs

£50m 360th=

► John Yerburgh, 73, is the former chairman of Daniel Thwaites, a private brewer and hotel group based in Blackburn. He, his wife Ann, 49, and other family members own 37.7%, directly or in trust, worth £45m. Other assets add £5m. (1996: £53m, 305th)

RICHARD CARR

Hotels and football

£48m ★ 413th=

► Carr, 58, is a director of Arsenal football club. He also headed the Park Lane hotel, London, until its sale to the Sheraton hotel chain in 1996 for £44.5m. Carr's hotel stake, including trusts, netted him about £6m. His 18% Arsenal stake is worth £42m. (New entry)

MICHAEL and SHIRLEY GERSON

Removals

£48m ★ 413th=

► Gerson, 59, and his wife Shirley, 61, own virtually all the shares in Michael Gerson Investments, a finance and removals firm. They are the only directors of the London-based business. With

STEPHEN BOND and FAMILY

Helicopters

£45m 415th=

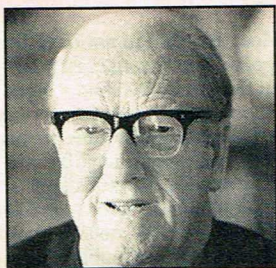
► In 1994 Bond Helicopters was taken over by Helikopter Service, of Norway, in a £75m deal creating the world's largest civil helicopter group. Bond, 46, runs the British arm in Aberdeen. Paid in tranches, his family will get £45m for its shares. (1996: £45m, 348th=)

LADY BROWN

Inheritance

£45m 415th=

► Brown, 44, is the widow of Sir David Brown, who once owned Aston Martin. She was his personal assistant before they married in 1980. He died in 1993 and she inherited about £40m. With investment, that should have risen to £45m. (1996: £40m, 387th=)



THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH

Landowner

£45m 415th=

► Forgive us, your grace, for raising your valuation by £5m. Last year we lowered the duke's wealth from £260m to £40m after he explained the situation regarding his art and land. Some 98% of his 275,000 acres, in Northamptonshire and Scotland, is classified as severely disadvantaged, with low profitability. The art treasures are vast, but Buccleuch, 73, says the Treasury would garner 80% of any sale proceeds. Hence his insistence on a £40m valuation last year. Who are we to argue with a man who saw off Jack Straw, Labour's home affairs spokesman, earlier this year? In reply to Straw's claim that hereditary peers were out of touch and that Buccleuch had made it to the Lords only because "one of his forebears was the bastard son of Charles II", the duke fired off a broadside: "I could tell Jack Straw a thing or two about life with a capital L, because I served as an ordinary seaman on... a destroyer in wartime." (1996: £40m, 387th=)

ROBERT CARTER

Construction

£45m 415th=

► Carter, 43, runs RG Carter Holdings, an East Anglian building group. It is worth £70m, up on 1996. But we ascribed too much of the company to Carter last year. We reckon he has 63%, including trusts,

LADY JULIET de CHAIR

Landowner

£45m 415th=

► De Chair, 62, inherited a fortune from her father, Earl Fitzwilliam. Her first husband was the Marquess of Bristol and her second was the late Somerset de Chair, the former Tory MP. Her art treasures are worth at least £30m. Racing interests and extensive property add about £15m. (1996: £40m, 387th=)

RON DENNIS

Motor racing

£45m 415th=

► Dennis, 49, is a leading figure in Formula One through the McLaren team. Mercedes-Benz is now supporting McLaren with £200m and Dennis has a 40% share in the holding company that owns the team. TAG McLaren Holdings saw profits fall in 1995 from £11.4m to £7.9m, valuing Dennis's stake at £45m. (1996: £60m, 254th=)

THE EARL OF DERBY

Landowner

£45m 415th=

► Derby, a merchant banker, inherited his title and a 27,000-acre Merseyside estate from his uncle in 1994. However, any appreciation is largely offset by inheritance tax. Derby, 34, has already had to sell Stanley House, his uncle's Newmarket home, though he is keeping the stud. (1996: £45m, 348th=)

RONALD DIGGINS

Property

£45m 415th=

► Diggins, 85, started as a surveyor's lad before the war. He worked for a property magnate and took over the company. He is now a large shareholder in Slough Estates, the quoted property group. His holding is worth £43m. Other assets add £2m. (1996: £35m, 467th=)

VIVIEN DUFFIELD

Inheritance

£45m 415th=

► Duffield, 51, is renowned for her philanthropy. The Children's Museum in Halifax, for example, received £7m. She was given £20m by Charles Clore, her father, in 1976, and three years later he left her £56m in his will. Her invested wealth should have grown to £45m, despite her charity. (1996: £42m, 379th=)

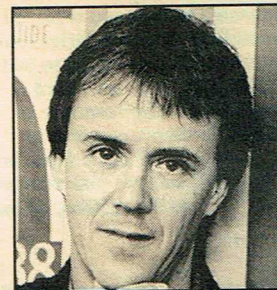
ALASTAIR DUNN and FAMILY

Car dealer

£45m 415th=

► A reorganisation of Thornwood

that of 1995. However, the group, run by Dunn, 52, seems to be doing well. The family owns all of the Stirling-based car dealer. We value the company on its 1996 net assets of £44.5m. (1996: £50m, 307th=)



TONY ELLIOTT

Media

£45m ★ 415th=

► Elliott, 49, started the Time Out listings magazine in 1968 with his 21st birthday money of about £70. With profits of £3.5m on £45m sales last year, it is now worth £45m and Elliott owns all the shares. There are reports that Bill Gates, of Microsoft, and Richard Branson (qv) want to buy Time Out to put its unrivalled information on the Internet. (New entry)

ROBIN FACCEA

Poultry

£45m 415th=

► Faccenda, 59, says he is a chicken farmer and Hillesden Investments, his Northamptonshire company, used to do just that. Now it is an investment holding company. In 1995 it made £2m profit and we value it at £45m. (1996: £40m, 387th=)

ELLEN and CHARLES GALLAGHER

Property

£45m 415th=

► Ellen Gallagher, 67, runs Gallagher Holdings with her son Charles, 37. In 1996 she transferred her 50% stake into trusts, leaving the rest in his hands. The company is worth £45m. (1996: £39m, 437th=)

LAURENCE GRAFF

Jewellery

£45m 415th=

► Graff, 58, runs a diamond business. In 1995 his Sandstar holding company made £1.6m post-tax profit on £58m sales, lower than the previous year. But it is still worth more than £40m. Salaries add £5m. (1996: £65m, 237th=)

FRANK HACKETT-JONES

Electronics

£45m 415th=

► A plunge into loss hit the shares

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ent in an exhibition next year which will travel to community centres, schools and other public places.

- The options include:
- Building new towns and villages outside Cambridge, and improving public transport.
 - Packing more development into the city.
 - Altering the green belt to allow Cambridge to expand.
 - Opening new train stations and building houses around existing rail routes.
 - Creating a fibre-optic network to allow more people to work from home.
 - Allowing villages to expand piecemeal.
 - Halting development altogether.

The initiative ties in with discussions on a new structure plan for Cambridgeshire until 2016. The county council and the government have indicated the need for as many as 65,000 further homes to house between 110,000 and 160,000 people across the county - the equivalent of another city the size of Cambridge.

The city's population has remained stable at 110,000 but much of the growth has been absorbed by surrounding villages. Up to 15,000 of the new houses are needed in the Cambridge area.

City in schism over park and ride plan

Financial Times 10/97 304

Canterbury protest reflects national scepticism towards 'green' car scheme

It is not quite Murder in the Cathedral yet, but the holy city of Canterbury is divided by a passionate argument which is echoing across the national stage.

Enter the city from the south and you pass prime farm land including orchards and hop fields worked for more than 300 years - the last unspoilt approach to Canterbury (if you ignore a few electricity pylons). Soon, residents fear, it may be history.

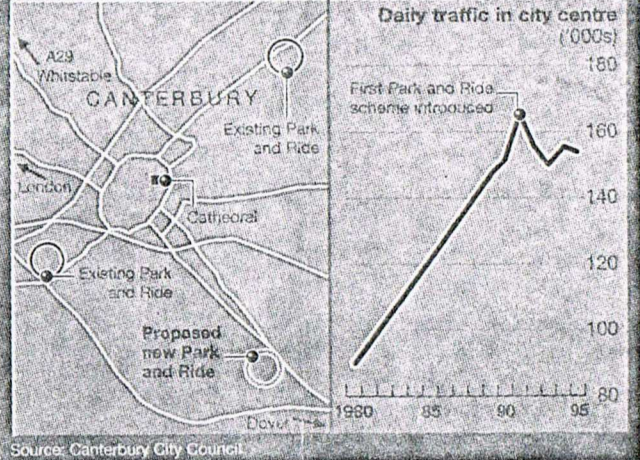
The city council wants to build a car park on part of it, beside Ye Olde Gate Inn. This is no little local matter: the national issue behind it is becoming Britain's latest, and least-expected, environmental controversy.

The site is earmarked for a park and ride scheme, Canterbury's third, and seen by planners as crucial to fitting 8m visitors a year - 2.5m of them tourists - into a city of 37,000 people.

Park and rides, in which motorists drive to peripheral car parks and are then bussed into town centres, are growing rapidly. New ones are planned in York, Guildford, Lancaster, Oxford, Falmouth, Cambridge, Brighton, Bristol, Swindon, Chester, Bournemouth, Poole and many other places.

The government is part-funding schemes by 24 councils. More than 30 towns and

Land in a holy row



cities will have park and rides by early next year. They have been seen as a "green" solution to growing car use - but now this is being questioned. Protesters

in Canterbury object to both the park and ride scheme and a proposal which would allow two college campuses to be built near it. "This would open the flood-

gates to development and sprawl Canterbury to the south," says Simon Cox, branch chairman of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

Next month, CPRE will publish a document which raises awkward questions about park and ride schemes. Not only can they be ugly, it suggests, but unless they are accompanied by other measures - including cuts in town centre parking space - they can increase traffic rather than reduce it.

Park and rides can attract development, CPRE argues. It also claims that because councils can subsidise the public transport part of the schemes, they attract people who might otherwise have done the whole journey by normal buses and trains.

The controversy is a headache for council officials who see park and rides as one of the few effective steps they can take to keep traffic out of historic town centres.

"The government has not yet put a social control on the motor car, and I must deal with the world as it is," says Andrew Roberts, Canterbury's director of architecture and engineering.

Canterbury's park and ride schemes have been a success, he says.

Between 1980 and 1991, when the first scheme was introduced, traffic in the city grew by 83 per cent.

Since then it has fallen by more than 10 per cent, while elsewhere in Kent traffic is still growing faster than the UK average.

Mr Roberts insists the new plan will meet CPRE's criteria for an acceptable scheme. It will be landscaped and located in a dip between two rows of pylons, and a multi-storey city car park will be closed.

He says the park and ride is not related to the issue of where new campuses for Christ Church College and Canterbury College may be located. Objectors say they are linked.

A planning inspector has suggested that the park and ride and college sites be approved but objectors want the district plan called in by John Prescott, deputy prime minister and secretary of state for the environment. They are optimistic about preventing the campuses from going ahead on the proposed site.

Mr Roberts says he would be "absolutely amazed" if park and ride schemes did not feature in Mr Prescott's planned white paper on integrated transport next spring.

CPRE, however, remains concerned. Lilli Matson, head of transport, says: "We will end up with a sea of car parks around middle-sized towns."

Brian Groom

to enjoy cream of

Minister says time is running out to deal with millennium bomb

Due warning for small companies