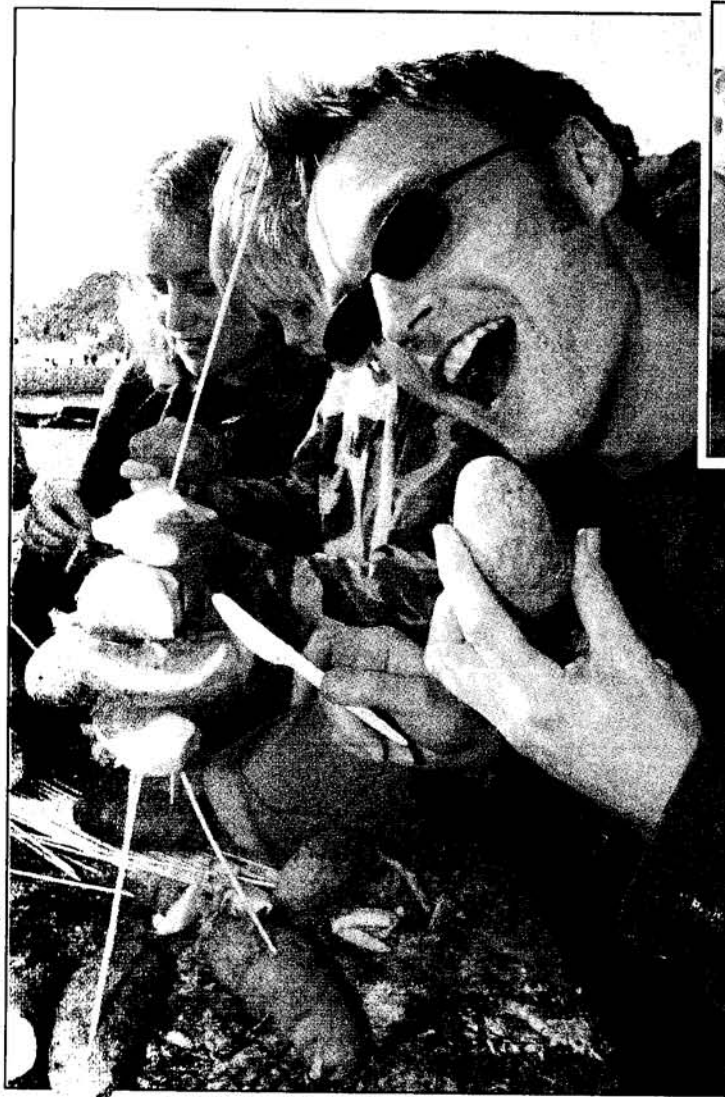


A DAY OF OLD-FASHIONED IRREVERENCE



WE'LL BITE THEM ON THE BEACHES: Roy Smith and Winston Churchill, above



FODH301004sculptures-3



FODH301004sculptures-9



HISTORY TAKES ROOT: Courtney Oates with Michael Howard, above, and Simon Faithfull and Mozart, left

FODH301004sculptures-1 Pictures by DAVID HICK

THE secrets of Folkestone's past are being brought to light by a new project called Navigating History.

Folkestone library and museum was one of three institutes in the south east chosen for the scheme aimed at promoting local history collections through art.

One artist, Bob Smith, was inspired by a Victorian Folkestone fundraiser to create a series of spoof election posters and to highlight his work a bizarre day of

entertainment was held on Saturday. More than 75 people, young and old, gathered to take part in the event on Folkestone beach, in which they created vegetable sculptures of, among others, Shepway MP Michael Howard, Winston Churchill and Mozart.

Bob also refereed a long-jump competition in which people dressed up as politicians, with costume including the Briefcase of Bureaucracy, Hat of Self-Interest and Coat of Corruption. More

than 50 people then followed Bob to the Grand Hotel, where he spent the evening performing a selection of comedy songs about the town.

Bob said: "I was delighted with the turnout and everyone seemed to have a great time."

"The aim of the event was to encourage people not to be constrained by authority, but take creativity into their own hands and make their own entertainment, as the Victorians did."