

# Encouraging visitors to Cluniac Priory

Lewes Priory Trust took part in the first ever exhibition promoting tourism to Cluniac sites in Cluny in Burgundy, France, last week.

The Priory of St Pancras, Lewes, is part of a vast family of Cluniac sites stretching throughout Northern Europe. It was established in the 11th century by four monks from Cluny and remained under the control of the Abbey of Cluny for most of its history.

The two-day exhibition featured sites from France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Switzerland and Poland, as well as Lewes, and was visited by tourism professionals, officials and the public and generated a great deal of interest in visiting the Priory and Lewes.

The exhibition was part of the 20th anniversary celebrations of the Federation of Cluniac Sites- of which Lewes Priory Trust is a member.

There was a conference looking at best practice -featuring talks on interpreting the site and the education work of the Trust. A specially commissioned film showcas-



**LPT education officers Kate Hickmott and Helen Chiasson with historian Dr Tony Freeman by Andy Gammon**

ing the Priory was premiered to great acclaim.

Trust chairman Sy Morse Brown said: "The Trust is keen to encourage visitors from at home and abroad to come and enjoy the Priory and all Lewes has to offer. The exhibition was a great opportunity to promote the Priory to a new audience as well as giving us the chance to exchange ideas with our fellow Cluniac sites. We anticipate some interesting exchange projects."