Nathan Brooks

A-19

Anthropologists have found that Stone Age Britons, though not farmers yet themselves, traded with the main land of Europe to obtain wheat grain. This is important because, as far as we can tell, Britons did not grow their own crops for about 2000 years after this point.

"They were perfectly happy with using the products of agriculture … but they didn't actually start farming themselves. They were interacting with the farmers some ways away, contributing to this process [of creating a Neolithic agricultural society], which is not the conventional view." (Joyce).

It is suspected that the lower levels of the English Channel allowed for easier trade with the mainland of Europe and more specifically with the area that is now France.

This is important to our course because it sheds some light on how long ago Britons actually started eating cereal grains and when agriculture started affecting Britons, which is a large section of what we have been discussing in class. It is interesting to note that even those who were not practicing agriculture still benefitted from their neighbors doing so.

Joyce, Chris. "Stone Age Britons Were Eating Wheat 2,000 Years Before They Farmed It." *NPR*. NPR, n.d. < http://www.npr.org/blogs/thesalt/2015/02/27/388822209/stone-age-britons-were-eating-wheat-2-000-years-before-they-farmed-it> Web. 27 Feb. 2015.