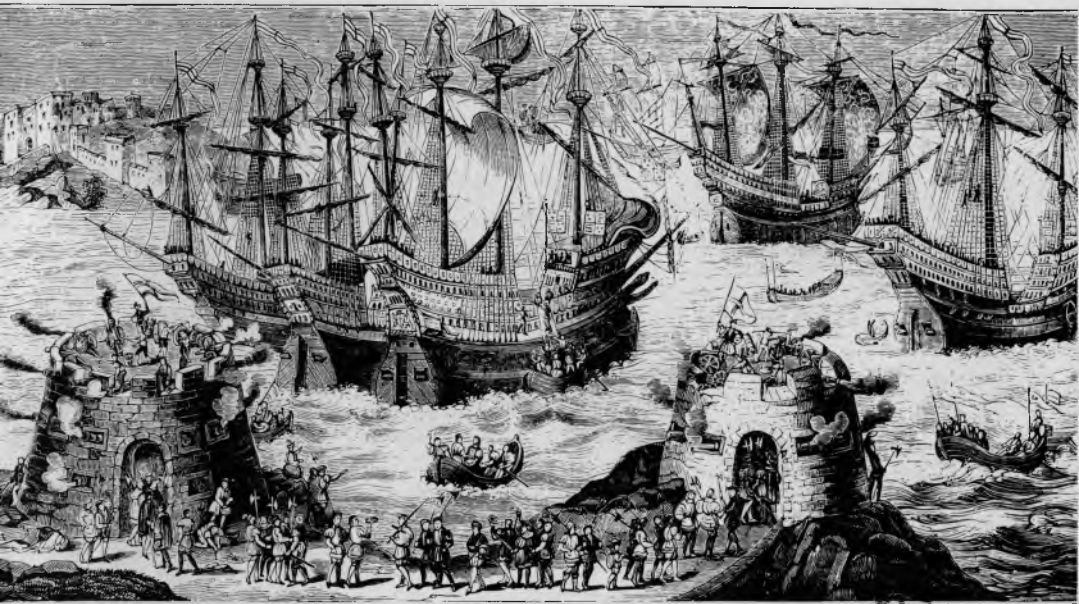


The
Dover
Society

Newsletter

No 10

May 1991



The Embarkation of King Henry VIII at Dover, 31st May, 1520,
en route to meet the French King at the Field of Cloth of Gold.

THE DOVER SOCIETY

FOUNDED in 1988

Registered with the Civic Trust. Affiliated to the Kent federation of Amenity Societies.
Registered Charity No. 299954

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Taylor, Ken Wraight, and Mike McFarnell, Advisory Member.

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COVER ILLUSTRATION: This is probably a 19th cent. wood engraving after an original painting by Vincent VOLPE in Hampton Court. Another version, engraved on metal by James Basire from a drawing of the original by Samuel Hieronymous Grimm, may be seen in Dover Museum,

Hand-written titles in this and previous Newsletters are by Philomena Kennedy as are some of the drawings.

EDITORIAL

Since Christmas we have enjoyed the second of John Gerrard's interesting talks on THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOVER HARBOUR and been entertained by WINE AND WISDOM. Our Social Secretary, Lin Clackett, has, as usual, made a major contribution to these events.

On 4th February we organised a very well-attended public meeting entitled SAVE OUR SEWAGE, RESCUE OUR RIVER. So as to ensure that Dover gets the best sewage system possible it is essential that the outfall area be classified as 'Sensitive.' **Please write to:** Peter Herbertson, National Rivers Authority, Guildbourne House, Chatsworth Road, Worthing, Sussex BN11 1LD requesting this, as soon as possible.

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING our Chairman was able to detail an ever-growing list of activities and concerns in which we are involved. John Owen and the PROJECTS COMMITTEE have succeeded in winning an award for tree re-planting in Lousyberry Wood. Plans to develop the RIVERSIDE WALK continue and we are in touch with the anonymous donor of a generous sum towards it. This offer was made through 'Terry's Column' in the *Dover Express*. We also hope to see the

improvement of the **Pencester Gardens** stretch of the River Dour.

The **PLANNING COMMITTEE** under Adrian Galley has extracted a promise from the **S.E. Kent College of Technology** to clean their Ladywell premises to match the adjoining Town Hall renovations, have gained the assurance that the **Eurotunnel Cooling Plant** at Aycliff will now lowered, have been associated with the listing of the **Mortuary Chapels** in Charlton Cemetary and supported the protection of the **St. Margaret's Bay** area from infilling. They have protested against the placing of hoardings, now removed from the A2, the development of yet another **amusement arcade**, have supported the red route for the **Whitfield Bypass** and the appointment of an **Economic Development Officer** by D.D.C. The Society is strongly supporting the **T.A.G./Maclaren** proposals which are enlarged on in this *Newsletter*.

Unfortunately **failures** have to be recorded: the **British Rail Tourist Office** at Prioory Station closed, the **Museum** is being required to charge for entry (although with concessions for local people), the **Halifax Building Society** premises are being extended, **fly-posting** continues in the town.

We are pleased to see the **TOWN HALL** unveiled in all its newly-cleaned and restored glory.

Dover should be very proud of its **MUSEUM**. Excellent use is being made of the new, well-designed premises for both permanent and temporary displays of a very high standard. **Christine Waterman**, the Curator (a member of the Society), and her colleagues are to be congratulated. Please note that membership of the **Friends of the Museum** allows free entry to several other local museums too.

The town's major new tourist attraction, **THE WHITE CLIFFS EXPERIENCE** has just opened. We hope that it will be very successful indeed in bringing more visitors to Dover. The modern complex, which includes the Museum and a small cinema, is an exciting architectural addition to the townscape, The centre contains some excellent scenes, in particular 'Dover 1944' and 'Grommet's Challenge.' We have reservations about various aspects but trust that in due course some features will be improved. The Council has undertaken to offer off-peak reductions on the entry fee for local people.

We applaud D.D.C.'s renovation of two shops in Cannon Street and very much hope that it presages further improvement in the town centre.

Following Nan Wilkie's letter in the January *Newsletter* concerning the **TRAM SHELTER** at the junction of Folkestone Road and Elms Vale Road, we were assured that detailed proposals for the refurbishment of the shelter were to be put before the D.D.C.'s Technical Services Committee. On 11th March we were delighted to hear that the shelter is to be restored. Encouraged by Edna Littlehale's Letter to the Editor we should be very pleased to know that people living near it might be willing to organise a 'Neighbourhood Watch' scheme to help protect it and would be very happy to offer space in future *Newsletters* to promote it.

The Society is most grateful for another generous gift from Vice-President **MRS MARION HORSFIELD**. The Committee is considering, in consultation with Mrs Horsfield, how it might best be used.

The resignation from the Committee of Vice-President **PETER JOHNSON** was accepted with great regret. WE miss his good advice and balanced judgement and

IO4 sincerely hope that his health continues to improve. We also thank ANNEMOLE and NORMAN WILLIS for their work on the Committee. It is with pleasure that we welcome back CLIVE TAYLOR.

We are grateful to JOAN SIMMONDS for the work she has done in organising our advertising in the *Newsletter*.

Vice-President and committee-member 'BUDGE' ADAMS has taken over the **distribution** of the *Newsletter* and other literature in addition to all the work he does in connection with their production. With this *Newsletter* you will have received a sticker bearing the **Dover Society Logo**: please display it in a window of your car or house. It will help to get the Society more widely known and recognised.

The Society is very anxious that the WESTERN DOCK WAR MEMORIAL should remain in Dover and the Secretary is contacting British Rail with this request.

The Committee would welcome more assistance. Please read 'CAN YOU HELP' and try to if you can. Suitable PRIZES for raffles, etc would be gratefully received by the Social Secretary.

Please do tell us what you think of the events we arrange and the *Newsletter*; FEED-BACK is helpful.

It may not be too late to apply for CONVIVIALITY & CONUNDRUMS if you have not done so already. It would help to have a knowledge of Dover for the Quiz, but it is by no means essential.

Please note the changed arrangements for contributions to *Newsletter No. 11* under EDITORIAL DEADLINES.

Finally, greetings to all members, new and established. MEMBERSHIP is now over 300 but, with a population in the region of a hundred times that figure, it should be possible to recruit more people who are interested in promoting the well-being of our town and villages and enjoying themselves as well. Please respond to Merrill's request to introduce at least **one new member** during the year so that we can be even more effective. If you have not yet paid your annual subscription please do so now.

PHILOMENA KENNEDY

Deadline

for CONTRIBUTIONS

Please note that *Newsletter No. 11* will be edited by Merrill Lilley, 5 East Cliff, Dover CT16 1LX. The DEADLINE is 1st August 1991.

Contributions suitable for the *Newsletter* are welcome. Illustrations to articles and other appropriate visual materials are particularly appreciated.

Publication in the *Newsletter* does not necessarily imply the Society's agreement with the views expressed.

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An
informal visit by some members
 of
The Dover Society

We were grateful to be invited to a preliminary exploratory visit to the Heritage Centre on the 15th March. The invitation came at short notice and it was only possible to inform those members who could be contacted personally or by phone and who could be free at 1.30 on a Friday afternoon!

In the event we were a party of about forty, full of expectant curiosity, which was not disappointed. On the contrary. The façade of the old Market Hall restored to its former glory confirms that it was worth listing and preserving and it harmonises surprisingly well with the new architecture.

Inside the Centre final works were still going on but we were very impressed. The ground floor is an excellent example of contemporary museum presentation. The large tableaux and video interviews with "Romans" are striking and vivid. The small and miniature models are exquisite. The Experience as a whole caters for varied tastes and ages. There are ample written explanations in English (and faultless French, but no German?) which call for leisurely and careful reading. The actual archaeological exhibits are cunningly embraced by the building, very well presented and will surely be added to in the future.

The old-time Pier wasn't ready but the re-construction of wartime Dover is real, even to those who remember the real thing. Last comes the Time and Tide spectacle. There is of course nationwide educational discussion about the merits of the comic presentation of history, but those present who are grandparents were saying that they would surely bring their grandchildren to see it!

We were asked to tabulate our impressions on market-research forms and I hope these prove useful. But it was obvious that we had been interested and enjoyed the visit. More than once I heard the comments: "It's money well spent" and "I think it will succeed".

Back in the Market Square: how happy we would be if the banks and shops could be re-located (perhaps in the Co-op and GPO sites - but there is plenty of choice) thus making possible a piazza and stepped garden and opening up the side view of what is arguably the best building in Dover - certainly the best new building.

LEO WRIGHT

106 *An Architects view of* THE WHITE CLIFFS EXPERIENCE

"Can this be Dover?" asked a young friend, impressed by the quality of the technology at the White Cliffs Experience. I asked the same question but I was seeking the essence of my home town. Dover Society members cannot forget John Sunderland's enthusiastic introduction to his project or escape the 'white elephant' jibes in the letter columns of the local press. Doverians might also lose sight of the sub-title "BRITAIN'S FRONT LINE STORY" and expect more than the Experience claims to offer. Nor should we forget that this is a commercial exercise designed to attract the tourist and develop the town's prosperity. None of us will look through the eyes of the three-generation family at leisure depicted in the introductory booklet.

In order to provide an expert and original approach the Society invited ANN VOELCKER, R.I.B.A., a distinguished architect and a member of the Canterbury Society, to visit the complex and to share her impressions. The visitor is promised education combined with fun and entertainment. How successfully are these claims met?

One must fundamentally accept "processing" – that is following a pre-determined route through a series of scenes. Much as Ann dislikes this practice she found the introductory area exciting with its glazed crescent backed by geological photographs overlooking the remains of the Roman bastion. The wall-mounted display of three-dimensional historically representative characters seemed a rather curious medley, however, until careful analysis revealed that we were being taken back through time to face larger-than-life "Cantiaci tribesmen".

The ensuing Roman sections form more than a quarter of the Experience. Do they provide information about the facts and influences which governed people then? The area which shows Cæsar's INVASION is badly designed. Only half the screen is visible to those obliged to stand at the back. War's brutality and chaos could be better conveyed, without the confusion of strident music and spoken word, although the intention is clear enough.

In contrast the full-sized models of head-severing CELTIC FIGURES were felt to be "as bad as a bad comic".

The series of small uncoloured models, illustrating ASPECTS OF ROMAN LIFE was much favoured. Topics marked (M) here can be studied in greater detail in the Museum. Equally interesting is the small video depicting a regular voyage across the Gallic Strait. Supersonic screens featuring direct speakers are almost overwhelming in these Roman sections, though less so in the part where one may sit down in a small arena. Here it is easy to quibble – with the perfect teeth of the lead-mining slave, for example, but the press-button technique and illumination of the models works well.

One's sense of smell is drawn into play on entering the exhibition of the CLASSIS BRITANNICA remains. The mustiness, genuine according to our guide, emphasises the value of actual artifacts. Objects found on site are displayed, though perhaps not to best advantage. Serial lighting of the original walls is accompanied by a straightforward recorded commentary. However processed there is worthwhile knowledge about the Roman way of life to be gained here.

We were disappointed with the poor standard of INFORMATIVE PANELS 107 throughout most of the Experience. There are large sections of prose in small print with adjacent French versions. We felt that some of the content is patronising and badly expressed. Sentences such as "Well, even in lovely Kent it can be nippy at times" seem over-colloquial. Disembodied speech bubbles appear trivial, too. In describing these as an attempt to be "user-friendly" perhaps I am falling into the same trap. Sometimes drawings, often good in themselves, are placed around the text in a disorganised manner. What works best, when possible, are reproductions of contemporary prints or enlarged engravings such as those surrounding the moving "deck" of the ferry.

Ann was impressed by GROMET'S CHALLENGE, a mock-up "on board" adventure playground for children which fulfils the aim of fun and entertainment. Having tested it I can confirm the high standard of natural materials used and the demanding nature of the tasks set. Nevertheless I would not choose to undertake the supervision of a party of teenagers here, particularly as it is situated in the complementary glass-sided and roofed GALLERY overlooking the fragmentary ruins of St. Martin-le-Grand. Youngsters may let off steam while adults speculate about the view.

Continuing the entertainment theme one ascends the gang plank slope to the FERRY DECK. This and the shabby end-of-pier simulation recall with authenticity the atmosphere of neglect which pervaded travel in the immediate post-war period. Models of travellers are excellent but how regrettable the standard of both the mural and the multi-windowed fuzzy advertising film for contemporary Channel crossing. Ann hastened to consult the old timetable to compare journey times to Zurich then and now; another example of the attraction of genuine article.

We had encountered a historium. Now we were to meet animatronics in the "TIME AND TIDE THEATRE", repellent, biologically bizarre, cartoon-type personalities who set out to convey the potted history of notable passengers through the port. Perhaps Sid Seagull was invented for the purpose of advance publicity. He has been an unfortunate ambassador and regrettably our fears were confirmed by the corny clichés paraded before us. Pirates, pollution, moribund plays-on-words are all there. What will overseas visitors think of the jingoism? Perhaps it is just as well that some of the sound is too distorted to be comprehensible. I feel genuine admiration for the technical ability which can make a cliff face expressive but is it too late to introduce some quality into this crude show?

For most of us 'DOVER 1944' fortunately allows "Time and Tide" to submerge. The character of this reconstruction is superior to any others I have seen, including those at the Castle Museum, York, and at Beamish. One returns to history. This is neither fun nor entertainment. I felt my flesh creep as I watched the old news reels and recognised the items in the shops. Most senses are engaged here — almost that of taste. (Touch is a little worrying. Will the objects remain in place?) Children may identify with these scenes too, accustomed as they are to seeing scenes of war and devastation on television. The video accounts of local participants are re-assuring, an interesting contrast with the Roman characters; the former genuine, the latter inevitably theatrical.

Throughout the Experience, utmost exploitation is made of MODERN

108 COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES. Occasionally, one feels subject to visual and auditory bombardment.

The overlap between settings can be unsatisfactory when sound from a previous or succeeding scene intrudes. There is some contrast between calm and noisy areas, spatial variety is explored and with few exceptions, most displays are accessible to all. Boredom is impossible in the kaleidoscope of impressions. We all liked the use of different levels (with lifts available for wheel-chairs) and the abundance of light in the central area.

Externally Ann found the ARCHITECTURE of the building stimulating; the new construction with its good brickwork and varied surfaces was not a disappointment. Dover's efforts were favourably compared with those of Canterbury. The honest manner in which the façade of the Market Hall has been preserved met with Ann's approval as did the cylindrical exterior of the Time and Tide theatre. Paul Koralek, Architect, and John Sunderland, the Project Manager, have produced a well-coordinated scheme. How we regret the exclusion of THE PAINTED HOUSE! Nevertheless we felt that on the whole the permanent features are the better ones and most inferior elements could be altered.

Ann was pleased to discover Dover itself much cleaned up compared with its appearance on a previous visit.

It is expected that most visitors will take approximately two hours to pass through the Experience. In addition they may visit the SHOP and the RESTAURANT.

Then there is the MUSEUM still to explore. The exhibitions here, varied and lively, are likely to find favour with those who prefer a less high-tec yet more scholarly approach to the past.

TOURIST INFORMATION is available for assistance with further exploration of the area.

Ann would bring her grand-children. We shall certainly take our week-end visitors, expecting to discover more ourselves on each occasion. We shall probably first find Dover in the Museum and entertainment later at the Experience.

SHEILA R. COPE

My impression was that Ann Voelcker is very doubtful about the desirability of preserving a façade only and considers that, given the will, the rest of the building can often be restored.



However, she likes the façade and feels that at least there is no pretence that it is anything more than that, and she recognises that Dover has a relatively limited number of good buildings.

Editor

From wild and frightening Celts to the disturbing sights and sounds of World War II the White Cliffs Experience carries one forward on a tide of novelty and artistry. While a realistic sea laps against Roman turrets a fascinating gallery of characters from the period tell their personal stories at the touch of a button. The recent excavations of the Roman naval fort are pleasingly presented, as are the remains of the great medieval church of St. Martin-le-Grand. On via an enterprising children's play area, hidden within the hull of a Tudor sailing galley, to a dilapidated Admiralty Pier and the swell — and smell — of an early ferry. For children the high-light of the tour will probably be the twenty minutes of potted history presented by Captain Sid Seagull, aided by a talking cliff and hindered rather than helped by the complaining Corporal Crab, while for the older visitor the street and shelters of the 1940s bring back evocative memories, A little short on serious history, perhaps, but all in all good family entertainment.

JOYCE MOLYNEUX

An enjoyable blend of the serious and the frivolous, the historium should appeal to a wide audience. A lot of thought and care has gone into the planning of the tour and there is scope and space for introducing improvements and additions as the exhibition develops. It is hoped that the developers take note of the constructive suggestions of pre-viewers to improve the two-hour 'experience'.

My favourite exhibit is the tableau of people from Roman times, each contributing a view of life in Dubris and illustrating the point that life's problems

remain much the same in any century. What better way for children to learn history?

MERRIL LILLEY

Please bear in mind that on my visit there was still a considerable amount of work to be completed, so I have not as yet seen all of the exhibition in its finished state.

Of paramount significance are the archaeological sites of the Classis Britannica fort, the Saxon Shore fort and the Norman church of St. Martin-le-Grand, all of which have survived in part and will now be preserved for future generations to view.

Within the Exhibition the story begins in 55BC with Julius Caesar's invasion of Britain. There is a life-size display of authentically dressed and equipped troops being confronted by defending Anglo-Saxons on the shore.

From there the visitor is taken on in time to 140AD and can become more involved by selecting one of eleven different authentically-dressed models of Dover residents at the time, to tell their own story of life in 140AD.

Another section of the Exhibition deals with sea travel and its importance to Dover. Here one is given the vivid impression of being on board an old cross-Channel steamer. It is noticeable that a great deal of work and effort has gone into the production of the displays, to make them as realistic as possible,

The latter statement particularly relates to the section of the Exhibition that depicts a Dover Street in 1944. The attention to detail here is extra-ordinary and viewers are allowed to wander at will into shops such as a bakery, newsagents and public

IIO house. It leaves nothing to the imagination and one can easily get the feeling of what life could be like in World War II.

My overall impression from the parts of the Exhibition that I have seen is that it brings history to life, by using authentic models, modern audio-visual techniques and real people. It is this variety of presentation that makes it appealing.

Perhaps my main criticism is that the *complete* History of Dover has not been covered, although this might be dealt

with in some respect in the Time and Tide Show Theatre where viewers will be given a 20-minute animated show on the history of the area. (This was not fully set up on my visit).

The Exhibition should have an appeal to all ages whether they be local people or visitors to the town, and it must be a particularly useful resource to schools.

Everyone should find that they have a thoroughly entertaining and absorbing experience of the History of Dover.

DAVID ARMAN



Drawing by Hilary King

Lydden Pond Project

JOHN OWEN

The Dover Society LYDDEN POND PROJECT, in partnership with Lydden Parish Council and KCC, got off to a good start on Sunday 17th March when much clearance work took place and accumulated rubbish was disposed of.

The ambitious plan is to re-instate the village pond which will require all the resources of 'know-how', finance and voluntary labour that we can get. Come and see what we are doing. Bring gardening gloves and tools and lend a hand if you can.

Work sessions are at present taking place on certain Sundays. A notice at the pond in addition to those around the village gives the date of the next session in turn. John Owen can be telephoned on 202207.

GREEN FORUM

TAKING ^{III} the CHAIR

JACK WOOLFORD

I took the chair for the third time at a Green Forum meeting on 9th January, this time in Dover and on the subject of "NUCLEAR WASTE THROUGH KENT: How Safe Is It?". Despite gale, rain and difficult parking at the Boys' Grammar School the turnout was over 70, including some by-now familiar faces (including five members of the Dover Society).

The case that it was safe was presented by Bob Phillips, Chief Press Officer of British Nuclear Fuels, who also spoke for Nuclear Transport Ltd. He said the nuclear-fuelled power stations were here to stay, and that there was nothing new or unusual about the shipment of nuclear waste and that in the thousands of shipments over the last 30 years there had been no accidental release of radioactivity. The reprocessing of spent fuel, which is not stored but returned to its place(s) of origin, is big business, worth billions of pounds. The 80-ton container flasks, each containing 2-3 tons of spent fuel, were pre-tested by a 9 metre drop on to steel-cased concrete and in 1985 it was the locomotive, not the flask, which was smashed in a high-speed collision test.

Transit to Dunkirk from mainland nuclear power stations is by lorry with leak-testing and monitoring throughout and with Dept. of Transport validation certificates verified at each frontier-crossing. Transit from Dunkirk to Dover is by SNCF in train-ferries with fire-fighting equipment and trained crews. The numbers of flasks passing through Dover has risen from 2 to 35 per annum now and there is a prospective increase to 50; i.e. one per week. It is safe!

Greenpeace was represented first by

Jack Cade (sic) who said that, unlike his namesake of the 1450 Kentish insurrection, he is a reformer not a rebel, who has fought for 12 years against Sellafield reprocessing where an accident was waiting to happen. Accidents in transit could not be ruled out. Why did advanced countries like Germany and Japan not re-process their own waste? Involving, as it did, links with disease and death it was a moral, not a commercial issue, the more so because plutonium, the nuclear bomb material, is also involved.

John Large, a Consulting Engineer, also spoke for Greenpeace. He noted that this was Dover's first opportunity to query the operation. He produced models of fuel rods and container flasks (parts of which later fell off, by accident or design) and distinguished between short-term exposure to radiation by contact and inescapable life-long contamination from atmospheric dispersal (witness the Welsh sheep contaminated by fall-out from Chernobyl). He demonstrated the water cooling system inside the flask (with its fins like a motor-cycle cylinder), necessitated by the continuous generation of heat (as well as radiation) by the spent fuel, and compared the validity of testing against impact (here) with that of testing against exposure to

II2 fire (in the USA). As to the release of, for example, radio-active caesium from a ruptured flask, expert estimates varied from .01 to 30/40% and of the area of dispersal from 40 metres to 40/400 kilometres. A 30-minute fire test was unrealistic: ship fires could last for 23 hours.

Despite the chairman's request for questions, most participants made speeches, most of them self-righteously indignant, emotional and well-rehearsed in advance. Consequently at least as much heat as light was generated in the exchanges of accusations, statistics, facts, and opinions masquerading as facts (and vice versa). In addition to the sinking of the Titanic and the Herald of Free Enterprise, the discharge of nuclear effluents into the Irish Sea from Sellafield, the safety of ferries, the Ramsgate Harbour ban on nuclear waste transport, the problems of the Dungeness nuclear power stations, the vitrification of waste, and the comparative fire-fighting facilities of Barrow-in-Furness and Dover were variously rehearsed. Dover Harbour Board was abused both for participating in the traffic and for not charging enough for it.

From the volumes of applause on the one side and the volumes of silence on the other it was not difficult to conclude that most of the people who spoke had come to demonstrate rather than to learn. Had the chairman had time to summarise at the end of the meeting he would have quoted the observation, attributed to the London School of Economics: "Six experts, seven opinions!", noted the obvious difficulty of choosing between them and regretted the virtual impossibility of unbiassed choice.

The nuclear waste interest would certainly be well advised to send experts rather than PR men to public meetings and their opponents to employ "independent" experts less strident and rhetorically committed to their employer. Nevertheless Green Forum is to be congratulated on its initiative in organising such meetings despite the costs and other difficulties involved. Dovorians certainly have good need to be concerned about the chances of a nuclear accident even closer to the White Cliffs than Dungeness and the French nuclear power stations across the Channel. No topic of current controversy more needs informed public opinion for its resolution.

The Logo of the Dover Society

Philomena Kennedy's design of the Society's "has been accepted by all as the badge of the Society that may be proudly worn or displayed as an indication of membership. As part of our effort to increase our numbers, and our 'visibility' throughout the area we cover, our Committee has agreed that the logo be produced as a car or window sticker. Within the covers of this *Newsletter* you will find a badge that can easily be applied to the corner of your car's rear window or to a window in your house — just moisten the

printed side and lightly press it to the inside of the window.

Further copies may be obtained from 24
Castle Avenue.

BINDERS for the new format *NEWSLETTER*

A number of requests for the "Cordex" Binder for the smaller *Newsletter* have been received but the number is not yet sufficient to make up the minimum order. Details of the offer are on page 97 of the previous issue, and an order form is enclosed.

SCOURING THE DOUR

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The Dover Society and local Cadets

Spring-clean the River Dour at Charlton Green

The burning issue at the start of The Dover Society's clean-up of the RIVER DOUR at Charlton Green on Sunday 10th March was whether or not the Sea Cadets with their specialist training had a clear advantage over the Air Cadets where water is concerned!

At the stroke of 10.00, elements of TS LYNX SCC, 354 Squadron ATC, and Dover Grammar CCF numbering some 25 cadets in co-operation with DDC, set to clearing litter and debris from the river. The sea cadets not surprisingly deftly handled their grappling iron to recover a superstore trolley along with other large obstructions from deep water, whilst Barry 'Waders' got into deeper water than most of us owing to his borrowed waders from Dad! Amanda Doble showed spirit when cheerfully accepting an accidental ducking received in the course of her duty (her first as a sea cadet?)

Photo: Ray Newsum



Meanwhile the air cadets had flown to the road bridge over the River Dour and were bust skirmishing and removing all the rubbish they could lay hands on. The ducks which had taken wing were keeping a careful eye on the manoeuvres from a safe distance.

The project was becoming more of a combined op than was envisaged, for the removal of the dead willow required "all hands to the pump", just about all taking some part in removing this large rubbish trap safely from the river flow.

Despite our wellies this amphibious operation was at times hazardous as the depth in places was difficult to judge. The heaps of rubbish on the banks mounted with each team taking in turn the lead. With seconds to go to 12.00 the last large item reached the collecting point, the air cadets sheepishly accepting assistance from the navy and encouragement from quite a few interested spectators.



Photo by Eddie Clapson by courtesy of 'Dover Extra'

Once again the people of Dover can be proud of their keenness and cheerfulness in carrying out a community project successfully. The Charlton Green Stretch of the RIVER DOUR is the cleaner for their efforts.

As the task ended the ducks soon returned to their 'island', now free of rubbish, where they can get on with their nesting.

Specially commissioned Dover Society shields were presented to all three teams as it was judged by Mr M'Farnel (DDC) that all merited an award for their tremendous effort. The awards were presented by the Chairman of the Dover Society, Mr Jack Woolford, to: ATC (Mr Francis), SCC (L/Seaman Holley) and CCF (F/Sgt Creed). Refreshments were provided by The Dover Society and were served at HQ 354 Squadron ATC (with kind permission of the Commanding Officer).

JOHN OWEN
Chairman, Projects Committee

Save Our Sewage: Rescue Our River



A capacity audience attended this important public meeting chaired by Jack Woolford in the St. Mary's Parish Centre on Monday, 4th February, with a panel of six speakers.

The opening spokesman, PAT GOWEN of NORFOLK FRIENDS OF THE EARTH, presented a lucid, well illustrated and impassioned plea for full sewage treatment to protect the marine environment of our coastal waters, pointing out that sea outfalls carrying crude sewage, and designed in the immediate post-World War II period, were no longer acceptable for the changed conditions of the nineties with our greater knowledge and improved technology. Where coastal currents are fast enough dilution *may* be rapid enough to render bacteria harmless, but viruses are certainly not killed, nor are toxic chemicals neutralized and these persist even in prepared sludge, making it unsuitable even for fertilizer without tertiary treatment.

The EUROPEAN COMMUNITY authorities had registered their concern by setting mandatory standards for bathing beaches, with regular sampling to check that these standards were maintained. Only some 10% of the U.K. designated beaches at present meet these water safety standards and many have not yet been designated — hence their condition is not recorded or publicized.

Not only is HUMAN HEALTH at risk from polluted water in the most obvious ways, but less common effects are developing: skin troubles are occurring among fishermen handling contaminated fish and equipment. SEAL DEATHS have been highlighted by the media, but less publicity has been given to the 40% of the North Sea flat fish that are diseased, the infection of shellfish and the reduction in numbers of coastal birds — notably terns and puffins — not to mention the extensive spreads of toxic algae concentrated off the English and Dutch coasts.

Despite this totally unsatisfactory state of affairs the NATIONAL RIVERS AUTHORITY has given permission in some cases for the release of untreated sewage and 30% of river outfalls are not reaching the required standards. Sir Hugh Rossi has advised that proper viral counts should be taken and the results of all tests made public.

Underfunding has been blamed for the lack of action but adequate treatment methods are available and are not necessarily expensive. WYE COLLEGE, for instance, has developed a way of using sludge with straw, as long as it contains no toxic metals. Such a method would be doubly valuable by eliminating also the dioxins produced by straw burning.

II6 KEN SHAVE and PETER HARNETT, representing the KENT DIVISION of SOUTHERN WATER SERVICES assured the meeting of the Company's objective to comply with the NRA standards, bearing in mind their duty to their shareholders and customers to keep costs down. By June 1992 the NRA would have to classify waters as sensitive or less sensitive, discharge into the former requiring biological sewage treatment as well as the conventional preliminary and primary processing. For less sensitive waters a 2 - 2½ kilometre long outfall would be adequate, whereas with chemical treatment to kill off a large number of bacteria, a shorter one would be acceptable. Possible sitings were between Shakespeare Cliff and the Admiralty Pier. The work was unlikely to be completed before the end of 1995.

The four basic standards to be met were:-

- i Screenings must be taken out and stay out.
- ii Waste water solids must not be recognisable.
- iii The discharge must comply with the EC bathing water standards.
- iv Storm discharge was permitted through a shorter outfall than domestic and industrial effluent.

The speakers were admirably clear and precise in their statements of the options available for sewage disposal in view of the constraints imposed upon a private company and concerned listeners therefore suspected that only modest improvements could be expected.

GEORGE RIPPON, speaking on behalf of the NATIONAL RIVERS AUTHORITY, apologised for his lack of preparation as he had been asked to replace a sick colleague at short notice.

He pointed out that legislation to control what went into river water had been enacted only in 1985 and the newly-created NRA was doing what it could with limited finance. The AUTHORITY'S LABORATORY had been set up in CANTERBURY but there were restrictions on the amount of sampling currently possible. As the River Dour met the 16 classification standard at present it was undesirable to add sewage to it.

RICHARD MONK, FORMER DEPUTY ENGINEERING MANAGER at the FOLKESTONE AND DISTRICT WATER COMPANY and still its CONSULTANT and LECTURER, explained the area's hydrology with the aid of overhead transparencies and supplied copies of four excellent information sheets to his audience. (Listed at the end of this article.)

It is RAINFALL between October and March slowly percolating down through the chalk of the North Downs and accumulating in its fissures that provides the underground supplies upon which the Company draws throughout the year, since

most rain in the spring and summer months either evaporates or is used by plants. II7

In normal years the rise in the level of ground water is shown at the surface by the way in which CHALK STREAMS or NAILBOURNES, often rise higher up their valleys from January to March or April. Two years of lower than average winter rainfall had been followed in 1989 and 1990 by two hotter than average summers with higher evaporation rates and greater demand for water. This had resulted in reduced water in the chalk aquifer, lower river flows, a hose-pipe ban and the Company's concern over future supplies, for a water undertaking may extract only the amount permitted by licence. The HIGHEST underground water level in 1989 was barely higher than the LOWEST in 1987!

In drought years it is particularly unfortunate for the FDWC that water is still lost through NATURAL COASTAL SPRINGS and LEAKAGE from pipes. Details of the Company's measures to minimize this loss are given on the appropriate information sheet.

There had been much public misunderstanding about the amount of water used by TML for the CHANNEL TUNNEL construction. At its peak this had amounted to only 2% of the water company's total supply and none of it had come from the River Dour. When it was realised that the Company had to plan for a 2½% increase in demand each year the amount used by TML was put into proper perspective.

As soon as it was clear that drought conditions would prevent the FDWC from supplying Tunnel needs from local sources, TML BUILT ITS OWN DESALINATION PLANTS, recycling unit and reservoirs at the Shakespeare cliff site – and this after actually paying for improvements at Kingsdown Pumping Station and several kilometres of new main with the FDWC network! Far from depriving Dover district of its water TML had in fact acted as a local benefactor.

JOHN CLAYTON, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES FOR DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL and last speaker on the panel, stressed the Council's function to work *for* the public. He listed its four powers related to sewage disposal including lobbying, in connection with which it had agreed to erect signs on beaches which did not meet the required EC standards.

Under the Land Drainage Act of 1976 it similarly had several powers related to the River Dour, viz:

- i the removal of barriers impeding river flow, eg supermarket trolleys.
- ii facilitating improvements such as cleaning up the river.
- iii the granting of planning permission for any river works, eg outfall siting.
- iv land management, eg the improvement at Buckland Bridge, and last but not least,
- v persuasion, eg requesting the NRA to recognise the Dour as a major river!

The ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT of 1988 made provision for clean-up

118 standards in a number of fields, including amenity beaches, under which the public has the power to take the responsible organisation to court. Since the Council believes that persuasion and education are very important in such matters and preferable to legal action, it appreciates the good work being done by an active association such as THE DOVER SOCIETY and is very happy to co-operate with it.

In the ensuing QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION the following statements were made by the speakers on behalf of their organisations.

SOUTHERN WATER SERVICES

1 It was unlikely that a combined Dover and Shepway sewage treatment plant would be built on grounds of cost — both initial and running costs.

2 Consideration would be given to TERTIARY SEWAGE treatment only IF THE NRA DESIGNATED THE LOCAL WATERS AS SENSITIVE. It would comply with regulations but not carry out any extra treatment out of consideration for its shareholders.

3 All waste water treatment plants would meet NRA standards for both river and coastal waters.

4 The European Community is prosecuting UK water companies because operations here are more open than on the continent. The results of tests are available here and the water companies had an unfavourable press when they were privatised. (The F o E) answer is quoted later.)

5 The government has now designated fifteen beaches in Kent. Initially only Margate beach was thus classified.

6 No sludge is dumped or burnt. Farmers will use it only if it is delivered to them as a gift.

7 MEMCOR, the Australian system using a membrane, is being considered, but its use would result in significant increases in capital and running costs.

8 Broad Oak Reservoir has been proposed as a transfer system to allow undesirable organisms to die off. Nowhere is water recycled direct owing to the presence of micro-organisms.

9 The final arbiter on the quantity of water abstracted is the NRA.

10 If tertiary sewage treatment is not required under the NRA classification of the outfall area, the company will put in a facility to make it possible to include secondary and tertiary treatment later, on the assumption that improvements will be required in the future.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH.

1 Our water companies are being taken to court for not complying with E.C. regulations within the ten years allotted. The task was perfectly feasible economically. Many of our beaches are TWENTY TIMES DIRTIER than would be acceptable in

Canada and ten times dirtier than the permitted standard in the USA. In those **119** countries such beaches would have been closed.

2 David Plumstead, representing Shepway Friends of the Earth, wished to know why waste water was not treated for re-use and pointed out that EMPLOYING A MEMBRANE had been shown by FoE to be CHEAPER than a long sea outfall. It was used effectively in shuttles and satellites

3 Entrophication is serious down the north east and east coast of England as far as East Anglia and all along the Dutch coast. It is known that 60% of the PHOSPHATES POLLUTING THE SEA comes from urine and the rest from detergents. Clearly this form of pollution should not be allowed to continue.

4 In its concern for better sewage treatment the FoE was looking to the future, not just compliance with present regulations. Some of the effects of marine pollution proven to date had already been listed earlier in the evening. Further research might well show that catalogue of troubles to be incomplete.

NATIONAL RIVERS AUTHORITY

1 Money was gradually being allocated, but at present the organisation must cut its coat according to its cloth.

2 The speaker was not authorised to say whether the Channel waters were to be designated sensitive or not.

3 Tests had still to be made to ascertain the location of various substances. As sunny weather is good for killing off bacteria Dover Harbour had passed recent tests, but it might not do so in a normal year.

Local concern for the amount of WATER IN THE DOUR VALLEY was obvious from the questions put to Richard Monk.

FOLKESTONE AND DISTRICT WATER COMPANY.

1 Contrary to popular belief Watersend Lake *had* dried up before — in 1973, '74 and '76, prior to the building of Stonehall Pumping Station which was test-pumped for a few weeks when it was completed in 1978. No pumping had occurred since then except for four half days in November and December when the water was immediately put back into an adjacent borehole.

2 Pumping was due to start on the day of the meeting as the water at Crabble Mill was above the minimum level. All pumping would be in accordance with the rules of the NRA which was responsible for ensuring that any abstraction was not detrimental to other licence holders. The company was not allowed to pump until the measuring weir was in place on the Dour at Temple Ewell, which happened in January.

3 The FDWC actually only took 90% of the water permitted by its licence.

4 Supplies to the Channel Tunnel had come from Kingsdown or the west of the Company's area. Dour Valley water feeds Shepherdswell, Eythorne and

120 Whitfield or an outlying part of the Folkestone area. It was reiterated that *no* water from the Dour catchment was supplied to TML.

5 Any drying of the lake in the **grounds of Kearsney Manor** last year was *not* due to Dour Valley pumping. The lake was fed by its own spring as well as Dour water.

6 It could not be stressed too forcibly that neither the FDWC nor TML was responsible for any reduction in the Dour flow last summer. This was due to natural conditions in an abnormal year.

7 There was at present no indication that the Company would buy the TML DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL DESALINATION PLANT when the consortium had finished with it. John Clayton brought a soothing and practical note to his part of the proceedings by suggesting that:-

1 We must look to the future in view of the current annual **increase in water consumption** and the fact that when the port declines the town of Dover may have land-based industry which will use water.

2 Before the FDWC took over the supply function the Water Resources Board earlier in the century had identified Dover as a place where **desalination** was likely to be necessary and this would be very expensive.

Richard Monk had stated that the Company supplied water at 36p per tonne delivered — a very reasonable charge.

Anne Mole expressed the view of many in the audience when she remarked that the very best method of sewage treatment should be adopted and that water, a valuable resource, should be husbanded. **Most consumers wanted full sewage treatment**, the technology was available, but was there the financial will to implement it? Obviously the public would have to pay for it. Was it enough to comply with the minimum requirements on the threshold of the twenty-first century?

At this point the Chairman brought a long and lively meeting to a close.

MAY JONES

Leaflets supplied by the Folkestone and District Water Company:-

The River Dour and the Drought.

The Channel Tunnel, Dover's Water Supplies and the Drought.

"Thirsty Work," the reprint of an article in the July 1990 edition of the Transmanche Link magazine "The Link," and Leakage of Water from a Water Distribution System

Any members still concerned about the water level in the River Dour are urged to read the first of these.



ENCORE PRIMAVERA!

Jack Woolford

Our second Primavera Concert in the Town Hall more than justified our determination to secure their return to Dover. Although there were one or two fresh faces on the platform, the balance of their string sections was as exquisite as ever and their hallmark of sheer delight in music-making, which they communicate to one another as they play (even including a too-soon-turned page), continues marvellously to transmit to the audience. The animated clear precision of their playing of "classical" music, as in the Mozart Divertimento and, indeed in the early Mendelssohn Sinfonia and Rossini Sonata, is poised to perfection. Even more remarkable, therefore, is the inspired and lively but miraculously controlled rubato of their Bartok Rumanian Folk Dances and, finest of all the warm "romantic" passion of their Dvorak Serenade. If a section must be singled out, the celli and double bass were first amongst equals and it is possible to wonder if the controlling spirit of Paul Manley (taught by Jaroslav Vanecek!) is as much Slavonic as English.

Our Connaught Hall audience was smaller than that in the Stone Hall last year but our current weather was probably more responsible than the differences of architecture and ambience. Was it perhaps the programme? It was skilfully constructed to open and close with music from eastern Europe and Mozart obviously (and rightly) had to be included in his bicentenary year. Early and unfamiliar Mendelssohn and Rossini, however, though more than worth an airing precisely for being unfamiliar, may have been less tempting to our members and friends than Vivaldi or Grieg or Elgar, not to mention Tchaikowsky, all of whom wrote much more familiar masterpieces for string orchestra.

Prime credit for another successful social evening must go to Secretary Leo Wright who negotiated with endless patience and tact with Primavera and Eurotunnel and organised the publicity; and to Vice-Chairman John Gerrard who sought and obtained sponsorship from Television South, Dover District Council, Dover Harbour Board, Costains, the National Westminster Bank and Marks and Spencer. Other committee members organised ticket sales, the bar and acted as ushers. I am happy to learn from Treasurer Ken Berry that the books will balance and that we shall confidently sponsor another concert in the same venue on Saturday Sept 28th, this time by the Kent Concert Orchestra conducted by Col. Nevill and with a rather more popular classical programme including a Mozart piano concerto. I look forward to seeing you all there!





Photo: Ray Newsum

AWARD-WINNING *Woodland Restoration Project*

Brilliantly inspired was the inclusion of "Trees" by Peter Booth in the musical entertainment at the Society's Christmas Feast last December, for that very morning the final effort was made and the 200-tree project completed. The news that the project had won national recognition in the form of an award from The Civic Trust came later and made the effort all that much more worthwhile.

It all started back in summer 1990 with the idea that The Dover Society should participate in The Tree Council's National Tree Week, and at the same time help do something about local woodland destroyed in the hurricane of '87. Only residents of Temple Ewell know the true extent of the damage to Lousyberry Wood (known also locally as 'the Beechwood') and the urgent need to help restoration of this local beauty spot.

Lousyberry wood is crossed by footpath ER182 from Whitfield to Temple Ewell and is in frequent use by local people. The wood consisted of a fine stand of mature beech at the north end which in October 1987 suffered something like 90% windthrow. This was an appalling disaster and the whole community was distressed by it. The land

owner is to be congratulated on having done so much clearance work. Further clearing of herbage undergrowth and fallen trunks is required before replanting is undertaken. The devastation of the beech woods is clearly visible from the Lydden Road, Alkham Valley and Whitfield Hill, with loss of the beautiful skyline. 'Although privately owned it is much used by local people and has great community value' wrote Dr Jim Davis of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England and 'Men of the Trees' in October 1990.

The first move was to obtain permission of the landowner, who had largely cleared the damaged trees, then followed liaison with parish, district and county councils, the Tree Council, CPRE, Men of the Trees and the Civic Trust. All gave their expert advice and encouragement when it was needed most.

Inspired also by the Tree Council's National Tree Week (22nd November - 2nd December), the enthusiasm of local people and members alike and the 1990 theme 'trees and children', the Dover Society project committee went ahead, cheerfully assisted by children from Temple Ewell village school. 'I am in full support; it will broaden their horizons and stimulate their interest in the environment' commented Headteacher Mrs E. Waller. A talk on the project was arranged at the school followed by a cross-curricula project on 'trees' which the children did.

Some details of the project follow. There were to be three phases comprising site preparation, planting and after-care. Site preparation involved further clearance of deadwood over the planting area, cutting back of grass and bramble, followed by digging, weeding and marking of tree plots. Planting consisted of 'favourable species' to assist tree regeneration to predominantly a beech wood in an area of approximately 0.25 hectare consisting of 140 *Fagus sylvatica*, (beech), 30 *Acer campestre* (field maple) and 30 *Prunus avium* (gean) transplants (60cm max). Transplants were



Keith Playforth of British Telecom presents Chairman Jack Woolford with Civic Trust Community Pride Award 1990 on Sat. 26.1.91

124 to be at approximately 3 metre centres within 60 centimetre protective shelters, with bitumen-based tree mats to help reduce competition from surrounding vegetation and to conserve moisture. The after-care period involves periodic checks and lifting of shelters to clear any weeds which appear, plus dealing with any encroaching undergrowth, to enable the transplants to get away with a good start.

Throughout November and into December on Saturdays and Sundays the volunteers pressed on with the daunting task, though it was the village school which set the ball rolling with a magnificent early effort at clearance of the deadwood ably led by teacher Mr Bryn Thomas. Leo Wright did sterling work rallying his neighbours to the cause, and passers-by during work sessions were prevailed upon to join there and then, or on subsequent work-sessions. The weather was generally kind, but the Rotoract group (valiantly led by Nigel Curtis) had to contend with everything the elements could throw at them on their day and deserve the highest praise for what they achieved in truly adverse conditions. Hearing of the Society's efforts and being a member and keen tree man, David Shaw, MP and Mrs Shaw joined a work session in December during National Tree Week by way of encouragement and gladly acceded to the request to take a spade and do some planting!

All sorts of people found time to help out, from the very young to the not so young - the sight of Chairman Jack Woolford stripping down to shirt sleeves and 'turning to' in late November is not for the weak-hearted! The Glover family arrived in strength on a number of occasions and it was good to see one Society member travelling in from Tilmanstone to help. At most sessions we had refreshments kindly provided in the form of coffee; sometimes sweets would appear and on occasions something a little stronger for, whatever else happened, we were determined to enjoy the experience!

A varied assortment of tools including secateurs, shears, billhooks, sickles, adzes, mattocks, pickaxes loppers, saws and, it is believed, a sledge hammer, whilst showing we meant business, must have presented an incredible sight along with the varied assortment of working clothes, not least the person who it appeared had brought one of everything - just in case! But what of Jim Davis, a seasoned treeman who rather than give up planting trees for a bad back, has perfected what must be a unique technique of pick-axing in the kneel-down position complete with (magic?) carpet!

As this was our most ambitious environmental project to date we were a bit dubious about funding the operation. The 'whip-round' at the 'Presentation of Awards' meeting raised close on £70 from members and friends and was an excellent start to our fund raising, but for this project we were going to need much more. Working directly with KCC, there was the possibility of a grant provided we kept to the scheme specification, which we duly did and passed inspection on site. The grant was awarded conditional on the after-care requirement. Sponsorship was meanwhile being sought, but on this occasion we did meet with a good response and our financial position began to improve. One Dover company sent a cheque for £25 without being asked. They had heard of the project and responded, which is most encouraging. Eventually the project was fully funded and it was possible to enable some prizes to be awarded to four children who did particularly well. They got a book on 'Trees' and



Photo: Ray Newsum

the school was given a specially commissioned 'Tree Week 1990' shield with the good wishes of the Dover Society.

Of the ten awards made nationally in 1990, the winning of the Civic Trust Awards for the project was delightful news and serves as an encouragement for the future.

The presentation of the Civic Trust/British Telecom Community Pride Award 1990 by British Telecom representative Mr Keith Clayforth, took place on Saturday, 26th January and Chairman Mr Jack Woolford MA received the Award Certificate on behalf of the Dover Society.

This project was particularly satisfying for its permanence and future enhancement of the local environment for the long-term enjoyment of generations to come.

The Society wishes to acknowledge with thanks the sponsorship of: Crest Hotel, Dover, Hammond Motoring Services Ltd., J. Sainsbury plc, Seaboard plc and Trosley Equipment, Dover without whom the project could not have been successfully completed.

JOHN OWEN

Development of the Port of Dover

1950-1990

Members of this society are indeed fortunate in being able to call upon the expertise of so many of its members in a variety of fields. This was amply demonstrated in the Dover Harbour Board Social Club on 21st January when John Gerrard talked to a crowded audience on "The Development of the Port from 1950 to 1990".

Such a topic inevitably contains a great number of statistics, at which word this writer usually trembles and runs for the door; but it is a measure of John's skill as a speaker that he produced a rivetting talk with facts and figures well mixed with his customary humour.

In 1952 there were 88,000 cars, 1 million passengers and no freight at all; in 1989 2.2 million cars, 15.5 million passengers, 1.2 million lorries and 10.5 million tonnes of cargo - a string of figures which spring to life when John pointed out that last year's lorries would stretch nose to tail from Dover to Melbourne, Australia.

1989

Photo by courtesy of the Dover Harbour Board



His slides reminded us of so much of the port's recent history — the old Number 1 and 2 berths, now demolished, were only built in 1953; the old coal staithes which loaded coal from the railway which ran directly from the collieries are also gone, together with the pits themselves. The "Merry Dolphin", which the majority of the audience would remember well, was a very civilised restaurant in the 1950s. He also pointed out that Dover's traffic total for 1967 would be dealt with in a single summer weekend today, an indication of the efficiency and capacity which we now take for granted in a port which handles more per square metre than Rotterdam. We also learnt that Nos. 2 and 3 berths are the biggest roll on - roll off berths in the world.

The constant demolition, reclamation and expansion of the docks has proceeded with a rapidity which is hard to grasp and must have been incredibly difficult to plan, let alone ensure the smooth working of a port in a constant state of transition. The Hovercraft, only brought into service in 1969, are to be superseded this summer by the new, much quieter, wave-piercing catamarans if their propensity for causing seasickness in the passengers can be sorted out.

A ferry can now be discharged in 10 minutes by means of the new bridge system and lorry drivers who used to wait four hours for document checking can now leave in as little as five minutes, thanks to computers. Because of this technological revolution pressures on land areas have been reduced so further reclamation of the harbour is not envisaged.

John put in a plea for a more attractive approach to the Eastern Docks and showed a slide of the flower beds of the recent past. However, this is no longer the responsibility of the Harbour Board but of the Department of Transport.

There is no doubt that the Port responded magnificently to the dizzying rise of road traffic in the last forty years. Anyone comparing the treatment of air travellers, resigned to long delays and cattle truck conditions, with the

minimal dock-side waiting and spacious modern ferries of our cross Channel passengers, will be confident that Dover can rise to the challenge of the 1990s. And that certainly includes the Channel Tunnel!



The Eastern Docks
circa 1955-60

DOVER'S NEW MUSEUM

"The museum would henceforth be open every Monday to all classes gratuitously. This arrangement began on Boxing Day and 2500 people attended in 5 days. They did no damage and the hall was so crowded that not all could sign the visitors' book."

Dover Telegraph December 1837

Dover Museum is one of the oldest Museums in Kent. It began life as a private museum founded as part of the "Dover Museum Philosophical Institute" which was founded in 1836.

The quotation above is a report of the museum's first public open day. I have always considered that it might have erred a little on the generous side until our new museum, relocated close to the original site, opened its doors on Good Friday.

Just over a week later over 10,000 people had visited the museum and our own visitors book was equally full of names and many favourable comments.

The new museum consists of three floors. On the ground floor is a small archaeology gallery which traces the story of Dover from the Stone Age to the Saxon period, and in which can be found many objects on loan from the British Museum and Dover Archaeological Group.

The middle floor is entirely devoted to temporary exhibitions, and will be changed every 6-8 weeks. The first exhibition, "Dover and Its People", a photographic exhibition sponsored by South East Arts and Kent County Council, as well as ourselves, has been very well received. It will continue until 11th May when it will be replaced by a large exhibition of pictures from our own collection. In the summer, an exhibition on Noel Coward's life in St. Margaret's will be mounted with local art exhibitions, a pottery exhibition and a children's art exhibition to follow in the winter.

On the top floor the story of Dover continues with displays including six models showing the development of the town between 1450 and the 1990s. The latter includes the as yet to be built Sea Cat berths and the route of the A20. Dover Harbour Board generously funded part of the cost of these exhibits. Original artefacts, a Victorian room setting, figures and graphics have been used to trace the town's development from 1066 to 1945.

The new displays have been prepared in between other work (such as last year's Dunkirk Exhibition and the opening of the Victorian Museum in Deal) over the last two years. The research work for the panels and selection of subjects and objects has been shared between our three Curatorial staff, myself, Jon Iveson and Mark Frost. We have also had very considerable assistance from many others including Ivan Green, John Guy, the British Museum, Alan Goodearl, Mark Smith, Philomena Kennedy, Mary Dixon, Alex Summers, the Dover' Archaeological Group, Alec Hasenson, the Museums and Galleries Commission and Dover Harbour Board, the Kent County Archives and the staff of Dover Library to whom we offer our grateful thanks.

The design of the cases and layout of objects and selection of model makers has been carried out to a very high standard by Ivor Heal Design Company, a firm which has been responsible amongst many projects for most of the recent temporary exhibitions at the Royal Academy. Ivor Heal, the chief designer, was originally Head of Design at the Victoria and Albert Museum before going freelance. 129

Until 1st May the museum is free to all Dover District Council residents. Normal admission charges are 95p for adults and 50p for children and senior citizens. For only £2.00 you can buy a season ticket which will allow you free entry throughout the year, or you can join the Friends of Dover Museum which will not only allow you free admission to the museum but also to the Old Town Gaol, Timeball Tower, Victoriana Museum and Grand Shaft. (£5.00 per annum). Lectures, trips and social events are also a part of the Friends' Calendar of Events.

We look forward to seeing you all in the near future!

CHRISTINE WATERMAN
Curator, Dover Museum.

Footnote: The Museum was originally sited in the Guildhall in Market Square moving to its present site in 1848. *Ed*

Saving the Western Heights — *Past and Future*

presented by JOHN PEVERLEY, Dovorian and Borough Architect, Poole, Dorset.

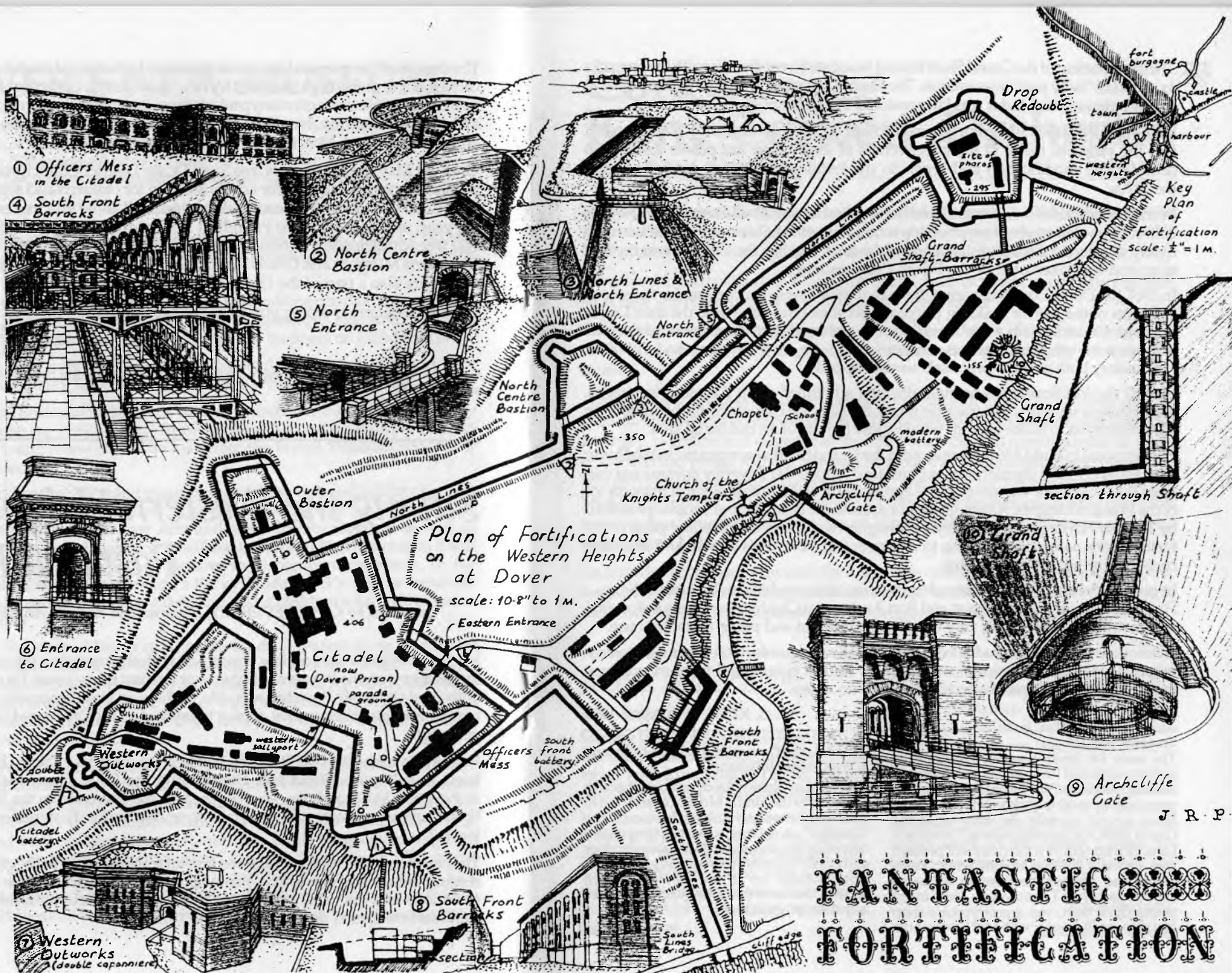
Mr Peverley's talk was mainly concerned with the measures taken to preserve the fortifications on the Western Heights over the past thirty years. By using a projector with dual slides Mr Peverley was able to show us simultaneously photographs of many important sites as they appear today and as they appeared about twentyfive years ago.

Born in Dover in 1933 Mr Peverley belonged to family of Trinity House Pilots. He lived in Folkestone Road and after leaving the Boys' Grammar School studied architecture in Canterbury. As a boy he became interested in the Western Heights Fortifications and later produced a monograph on the fortifications for an architectural journal.

The construction of the fortifications on a full scale started at the beginning of the 19th century when Napoleon first planned to invade England. The building of an enormous and complex system of dry moats with heavily armed bastions and caponiers continued until peace came in 1815.

John Peverley's splendidly-illustrated plan of the fortifications of the Western Heights. This magnificent complex, of enormous historic interest, could be of great value to Dover as a tourist attraction.

After his fascinating illustrated talk at the A.G.M. John donated his slides, some of constructions now destroyed, to Dover Museum.



FANTASTIC
FORTIFICATION

122 The construction of the Grand Shaft linking Snargate Street directly with the barracks as a kind of "sally port" was unique. The Shaft was sealed in 1966, after the barracks had been demolished but it was later restored by the Borough Council.

By the middle of the 19th century a renewed fear of French invasion (by Napoleon III) and the progress made in the effectiveness of long range fire power resulted in considerable modification and repair to the fortifications which continued until the 1870s.

Modern methods of warfare rendered the fortifications and buildings obsolete by the 20th century. However, the ownership remained with the Ministry of Defence who finally decided to discard certain parts of the fortifications. The Citadel was the first to go and was taken over by the Prison Commissioners.

In 1961 the *Dover Express* reported that negotiations were proceeding for the sale of 160 acres of the site for building purposes. At about the same time the then Dover Borough Council (with a fine regard for the archaeological importance of the site) proposed to use the moats as receptacles for the town's refuse and rubbish!. Fortunately both of these proposals were dropped.

In 1962 the fortifications were first officially scheduled as an Ancient Monument. Nevertheless some of the barrack premises, the garrison chapel and the hospital were later destroyed to make way for what is now the site of an industrial area.

The proposal to build 236 houses around the Grand Shaft was reported in the *Dover Express* in 1971 but the plan was apparently dropped. Mr Peverley pointed out that from that year there was much more appreciation of the archaeological importance of the Western Heights. Although the area around the Drop Redoubt is now protected by English Heritage, Mr Peverley's photographs showed that in some parts of the fortifications nature is beginning to take over (Mr Peverley's words) and adequate conservation seems to be lacking.

In conclusion Mr Peverley showed us pictures of somewhat similar fortifications — Fort Brockenhurst near Gosport and Fort Amhurst at Chatham — where restoration and maintenance are being very carefully carried out and put to a practical use.

At least some of us in the audience were left with an uncomfortable feeling that much more needs to be done so that we can enjoy the full potential of these magnificent archaeological remains situated on our very doorstep.

W. G. KING, 15th April, 1991

Cont from page 150

The same Mr Smith was the owner of the earlier mentioned Ice Store, another fish shop in the upper part of Snargate Street and, many years before, another shop in lower Snargate Street almost opposite the entrance to the Grand Shaft. On the other side of Thornton's Lane, (a fragment of which may still be seen) was Terson's Auction Rooms which years before had housed the printing works of another part of the Terson family. Next, in my young days, there was a pastrycook's shop and then, on the corner with Mill lane was the

"Wine Lodge", now entirely re-built and known as the "Britannia".

Beyond the "Robin Hood" was another fish shop run by the kindly Mrs Spicer and next to her was another public house, "The Chandos". A chemist's shop, appropriately owned by Mr Alexander Bottle was next door and I well remember the red- and green-filled carboys, high up in the window, which seemed then to be the distinguishing mark of any chemist's business.

To be continued

Concert by the Kent Concert Orchestra

13th March 1991

Members who were fortunate to have attended this concert, held in the hall of St. Edmund's School, would have understood at once why we are hoping to support this local orchestra, founded and conducted by Colonel Paul Neville, later in the year.

It was hard to believe that this 26-piece orchestra does not rehearse regularly together, so at ease with their parts and so disciplined together are they.

These are professionals and there are no passengers. Much of their success is owed to the firm, sympathetic lead given by their conductor, who visually interprets the music.

Appropriately in this celebratory bi-centenary year, four out of the six items were by Mozart. The orchestra combined great purity of tone in the Andante movements with accuracy, precision and elegance in the faster ones. (Special mention must be made of the talented young Richard Shackleton, a pupil at St. Edmund's, who played the first movement of the piano concerto K.414.) The String section was equally at home with the Adagio for Strings, composed for them by John Perkins. A most enjoyable evening was rounded off with one of Haydn's most spectacular and colourful symphonies: No. 44.

As already mentioned, provided the Primavera concert is as successful as last year, we plan to present and sponsor a concert by Col. Neville's Kent Concert Orchestra in the Town Hall on 28th September. He is proposing a very attractive programme.

LEO WRIGHT

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Having lived for 34 years within sight of the shelter at Elms Vale Junction, I can agree with Miss Wilkie, I think it is an excellent piece of "town furniture."

It is also very useful, because three bus stops and two phone boxes can be observed from its protection in bad weather. Before traffic was quite so thunderous, it was a pleasant resting place for elderly Dovorians out on a constitutional.

It has been repaired and refurbished at intervals over the years, but it seems to attract vandalism immediately. It has also been painted rather unsuitable colours, which have taken away some of its dignity.

Yes, I will gladly join a Preservation Group for the shelter, if it is soundly repaired, and allowed to continue its useful work on the corner. Unlike the Horse Trough, its *raison d'être* has not vanished – merely changed.

Yours sincerely,

EDNA M. LITTLEHALES

THE LOUSYBERRY LOOT

Stimulated by Marjorie Wright's amusing speculations about the origin of the name LOUSYBERRY the Editor enjoyed a flight of fancy, under the above title, in *Newsletter* No. 9. No doubt readers noted that the find was ostensibly made on the date known to the Romans as KALENDS APRILIS (1st April) and realised that the Loot exists only in the Editor's imagination.



Sculpture of a
Centurion
which is rem-
arkably complete.

Entering into the spirit of the thing a reader in New York wrote:

I was most interested to read of the recent excavations in Lousyberry Wood, perhaps because the fragment of the carved centurion bears an astounding resemblance to my son Paul.

In spite of my present domicile I was born in Kent and although Quinn is often thought to be an Irish name family lore has it that it is an abbreviation of a Latin one. I wonder if Julius Laberius had a relative by the name of Quintus or some such appellation.

Do please inform me where these interesting objects may be viewed.

MAUREEN QUINN

(Candidates might include:

MARCUS FABIVS QVINTILIANVS, a celebrated rhetorician who taught rhetoric in Rome and considered that education in the subject should begin in the cradle. He wrote a treatise on the corruption of eloquence.

QVINTILLA, a courtesan of Rome.

CVRTIVS RVFVS QVINTVS, a Roman historian admired for the floridness of his style but criticised for his glaring mistakes in geography as well as history.

ED.)

Further light may be thrown on the derivation of the name 'Lousyberry' by the following letter;

Dear Editor,

The impressive scholarship of your correspondents, Marjorie Wright and Philomena Kennedy (*Dover Society Newsletter* 9, pp 53, 53) must not be allowed to pass without receiving the recognition they deserve. But perhaps the following may help to amplify the derivation of the term "Lousyberry" and soften the constant embarrassment to your Hon. Treasurer.

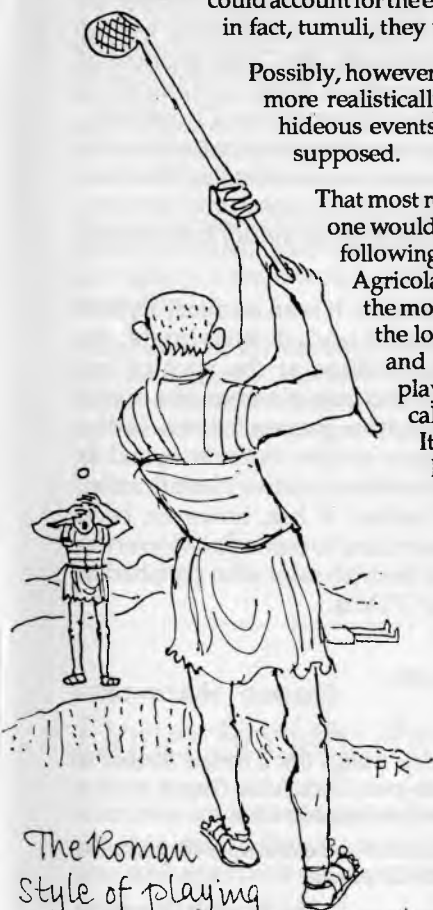
As is often the case with place names the source of this unusual name must surely be a mixture of historical allusion compounded by allegory and fantasy. Just to dispose first of all of the second element of the name, it seems clear that all the "berry" place-name endings are misspelled variants of the more usual "bury" (= *barrow* from OE "*burian*" = a burial place). This could account for the evidence of the tumuli (Wright, *loc cit*), although if these are, in fact, tumuli, they would be ancient in Roman times.

Possibly, however, the tumuli have another origin which would relate them more realistically to the Roman occupation, though not directly to the hideous events which finally named the place, than has hitherto been supposed.

That most reliable historian, Tacitus, recording with all the filial piety one would expect of a son-in-law (Agricola, *cap XLVII*), tells us how, following his advance into Caledonia in about AD 82, one Julius Agricola, whilst Legatus Praetorius, became absorbed by one of the more heathen pastimes of the local Celts. Possibly devised by the locals as a form of wargame designed to improve stamina and teach the reading of rough terrain, the wargame was played on a winding, sinuous course, and was for that reason called by the Romans "*sinus*", or, in Middle English "*gulf*". It seems ironical that it is not the Roman but the Middle English name which has come down down to us in the great game of golf.

It is known that the sole legacy of Roman occupancy in many parts of England, particularly down the north west coast, is a number of supposed tumuli sites, which, in fact, are no less than Roman golf courses. It is suggested that the tumuli in Lousybery Wood are also such remnants, and this is borne out by the finds there, which are typical of similar finds in other *cava undevicesima*, which appear to have been hallowed places set apart for the propitiation of the gods of the course. So much for "berry"; by the time the events recounted below unfold themselves the *iter sinuum* would have become indistinguishable from truly ancient burial sites.

It is suggested that the element "lousy" (which would be pronounced "loozy" until about 200 years ago) is derived from the name of an early Christian martyr, Saint Lucy. This luckless Roman lady was the daughter of one of the last of the Tribuni Militum to live close to the Gateway of



The Roman style of playing golf would be considered somewhat primitive today.

136 England. Her latin name was Lucia Grandiloquenta Infortunata, and she was living proof — well, dying proof actually — of the maxim that there is a time to keep silence and a time to speak (*Ecclesiastes III, 7*). This is mainly because, although she loudly proclaimed her Christianity as early as AD 311, her studies had been confined to the New Testament and the wise words of the preacher had thus been denied her.

Her particular misfortune lay in the fact that, had she held her tongue for a year, she would have kept in step with her Emperor, Constantine, who espoused Christianity in 312. Still, you can't win them all, and at least her name is still remembered.

The Vatican records of the saint's immolation (copies available from the Hon. Treasurer, price £5 inc VAT) are unspecific about the mode of her despatch. But there is no doubt that the event took place on Kalendae Aprilis, an extraordinary coincidence, in view of the Kennedy find. In local legend there is also some oblique reference to Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love who, indeed, gave her name to the month of April. It is difficult to see how this would cross-refer with the conversion to Christianity, unless, of course, the lusty young lady was taking somewhat literally the notion of the love-feast or *agape* recommended by the Primitive Church. The Vatican will not comment on this aspect, and for some unaccountable reason has banned your present author from setting foot in the Library there ever again.



One further, perhaps trifling, sidelight. It is an ancillary legend that, when the anniversary of Saint Lucy's death is bright, the sun slanting through the trees strikes at the spot of her immolation in such a way that the pale blossom of a shrub which abounds there irridesces with a gorgeous sheen. Sadly, the species of the shrub is not now evident in the area, and as taxonomists at Kew are unable to offer a positive identification, it is probable that it is now extinct. It has, however, been suggested that it may have been related to the earlier-flowering shrub sacred to the memory of the Irish saint who perished in similar circumstances, Daphne O'Dora.

Or, again, it might not.

Yours, etc.,

RICHARD HOLDSWORTH

Figurine of
Lucia Grandiloquenta
Infortunata.
The pose is based
on that of the
Capitoline Venus.

FOOTNOTE: Our Treasurer, Ken Berry, admits that a certain likeness to family photos of his Great-great-great-great Uncle Julius (known to all as Juliberry) is evident in the sculpture of the centurion. ED.

Another reader, Douglas Welby, has drawn my attention to the following (genuine) extracts from The Kentish Chronicle :

The Kentish Chronicle

28 January 1817

Thomas Page, a carpenter residing at Ewell, near Dover, having dreamed there was a large sum of money buried on the hill opposite River, above the lime-kiln which belongs to the Old Park and is the property of — Every, Esq., Page applied for and obtained liberty to dig for

the hidden property and set out on Monday last the 20th. January with several other persons under his direction; the spot being pointed out by Page, they commenced their labour, and after being at work a short time they found a skull and a canteen which were nearly decayed, when Page directed the people to dig a little more to the right and they would find a pot, which was done, and also another with a belt and breast plate; the two vessels have the appearance of large copper boilers, and are of very ancient make, they contained a quantity of old coins of gold, copper and other metals, some of them dated 117. This is supposed to be a miracle by the people residing in the neighbourhood, as Page could not have obtained any information from history, he being unable to read or write.

4 February 1817

The account we gave on Tuesday last of Thomas Page, a carpenter at Ewell near Dover having found a quantity of old coins in consequence of his having dreamed that some treasure was hid on the hill opposite River, has induced a correspondent to furnish us with an account of the same man having had a similar dream nearly two years ago, when he searched at the same spot and found several silver ornaments, apparently Roman, and which it seems probably belonged to the belt of some warrior. We have seen these ornaments which are in fine preservation and they are inlaid with thin gold and some stones are set in one of them. The following memorandum was made by the Lady who now has the ornaments, at the time they came into her possession, which was shortly after they were found:

Page, a journeyman carpenter, living at Ewell, near Dover, dreamed that if he dug up the ground at a certain place exactly pointed out in his dream, he should find great treasure, he accordingly in the morning proceeded to the spot, and with his knife only dug up these ornaments.

The place at which they were found is on the side of a hill, a little to the left of the turnpike road leading from Canterbury to Dover, about two miles from the latter place, and just by the corner of the road leading to Sand wich. It is reported that other persons in digging afterwards, in hopes of finding further treasures, discovered some human bones. April 1815.

PHILOMENA KENNEDY

Dover Society Project Support Group

Members are invited to join our small and select core group on the ground. Our aim is to ensure that our projects are successful. It gets us out for a couple of hours now and again and we experience things other never do!

Contact John Owen 0304 202207

138 HENRY VIII'S ASSOCIATION with the TOWN of DOVER

This year marks the 500th anniversary of the birth of King Henry VIII.

During his reign, King Henry paid numerous visits to Dover. He was particularly interested in the construction of the coastal defences and sympathetic towards the development of the town's harbour but, of course, the dissolution of the religious houses in Dover had a profound impact on the townsfolk.

DOVER CASTLE

Prior to his accession to the throne, Prince Henry, Duke of York, was appointed to the post of Constable of Dover Castle and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports in 1493. Prince Henry adopted an enthusiastic rôle in fulfilling his duties up until the time when he was pronounced heir to the throne upon the death of his brother, Arthur, when he chose to appoint Sir Edward Poynings as his deputy.

In 1533, George Boleyn, Lord Rochford, was appointed Constable and Lord Warden. Co-incidentally, the King secretly married Boleyn's sister during the same year. In 1536, however, following the disgrace and execution of George Boleyn, Henry's son, Henry Fitzroy was made Constable and Lord Warden although he died during the same year that he was appointed.

Henry Fitzroy's successor was the treasurer of King Henry's household, Sir Thomas Cheyne, who was allocated the onerous task of informing Anne of Cleves of the King's desire for their marriage to be annulled during a visit to Dover Castle. It is also of interest that Sir Thomas, when repairing the Castle, used stones collected from the previously dissolved abbey at Langdon.

During the reign of Henry VIII many changes were made to adapt the existing fortifications for the use of artillery. The King was able to fund such schemes by taking



Henry VIII
in 1536-7
from the portrait by Holbein

possession of the Constable's lands. This source of local revenue was used by the King to fund the construction of coastal fortifications including the Moat Bulwark, Archcliffe Fort, Sandgate, Walmer and Deal Castles, all of which were considered to be part of Dover's defences.

THE HARBOUR

During King Henry's reign the western harbour works were extended. Between 1538-1540 the King made frequent visits to Dover to supervise the many additions to the Town's defences, including the works at the harbour. It is estimated that the harbour works during the reign of King Henry VIII amounted to some £60,000. It is recorded, however, that the entrance to the new harbour had been obstructed as early as 1541 by a bar of shingle. Moreover, sadly for the town of Dover, the King's attention was diverted from Dover during the rest of his reign and as he had made no provision for the expenses of keeping the harbour in a good state of repair it fell into decay and became almost useless.

THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES AND RELIGIOUS HOUSES

Between the years 1536 and 1540 Henry actively pursued the dissolution of the Country's religious houses. This policy resulted in the closing, in Dover, of the Priory and the hospitals of St. Bartholomew and the Maison Dieu. In order to accommodate the needs of the poor of the town, Henry gave his assent to a law which required church-wardens and two others in every parish to make collections for the poor on Sundays.

When the Maison Dieu was dissolved its lands were taken by the Crown. The associated church of St. Mary was, however, given by the King to the town of Dover whilst the Maison Dieu Hall was retained by the Crown and has, ever since the Dissolution, been used for public purposes. It is one of the stained glass windows in the Maison Dieu which depicts the grand occasion when Henry and his entourage embarked from Dover in May 1520 to meet and discuss policy with King Francis I at the "Field of Cloth of Gold". The arrival of the courtiers and nobility in the town, and the entrance made by the King himself by torchlight, must surely have been greeted with great interest by the inhabitants of Dover.

So, 500 years on from the birth of King Henry VIII, the British Tourist Authority and English Heritage are organising a number of events to commemorate this anniversary, and further information on these may be obtained from the Tourist Information office at Dover.

JANICE NIXON

IN MEMORIAM

We regret that we have to record the deaths of two members:

Mrs J. Leeming and

Mrs G. E. Muckleton

and send our condolences to their families

140 DOVER in 1823

I don't know how many people these days read William Cobbett's "Rural Rides". They make entertaining reading in several ways and include much of local interest. Of Dover itself he wrote, in September 1823 :

"The town of Dover is like other sea-port towns; but really much more clean, with less blackguard people in it than I ever observed in any sea-port town before. It is a most picturesque place, to be sure. On one side of it rises, upon the top of a very steep hill, the old Castle, with all its fortifications. On the other side of it there is another chalk-hill, the side of which is pretty nearly perpendicular, and rises up from sixty to an hundred feet higher than the tops of the houses, which stand pretty nearly close to the foot of the hill.

I got into Dover tather late. It was dusk when I was going down the street towards the quay. I happened to look up, and was quite astonished to perceive cows grazing upon a spot apparently fifty feet above the tops of the houses, and measuring horizontally not, perhaps, more than ten or twenty feet from a line which would have formed a continuation into the air. I went up to the same spot, the next day, myself; and you actually look down upon the houses, as you look out of a window, upon people in the street."

So, Cobbett would not be surprised to see the Dexter cattle grazing on the Western Heights today. English Heritage has successfully put the clock back.

Cobbett was less kind about Deal:

"Deal is a villanous place. It is full of filthy-looking people. Great desolation of abomination has been going on here; tremendous barracks, partly pulled down and partly tumbling down. Every thing seemed upon the parish. I was glad to hurry along through it."

LEO WRIGHT

Membership News

Membership £4 per person per year (1st April - 31st March)

Current Membership as at 1st April: 306.

The Dover Society entered its fourth year on 1st April, 1991 with 297 members. In 1990-91 we lost 15 members and gained 39. In the coming year we would like to increase our membership substantially and, with this end in view, ask for your help.

Can *you* introduce one new member in 1991?

The annual subscription has been raised to £4, a necessary move in view of rising costs

of postage, printing, stationery, hall-hire, etc. but it still remains lower than many **141** other local societies.

A large percentage of members renewed subscriptions at the A.G.M. To others, renewing by post, early payment of subscriptions will be greatly appreciated. Please make cheques payable to "The Dover Society".

MERRIL LILLEY, *Membership Secretary*

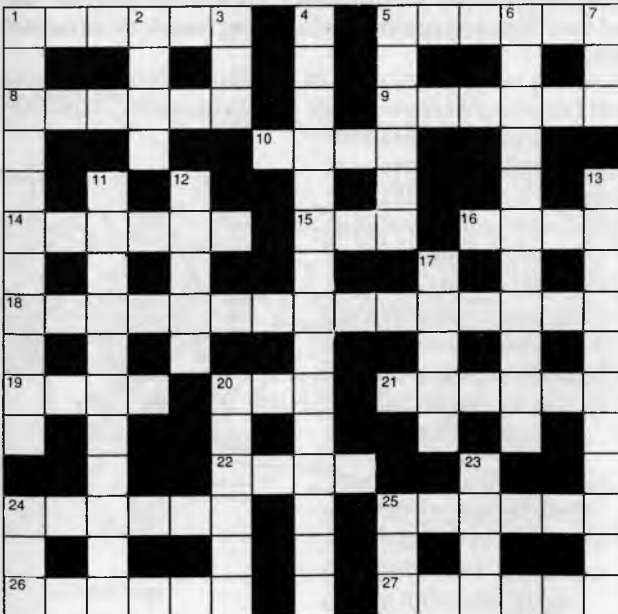
MERRIL'S CROSSWORD - 2

CLUES - ACROSS

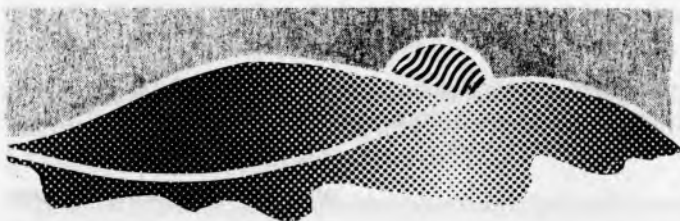
- 1. Murdered in Canterbury Cathedral (6)
- 5. Roman Lighthouse (6)
- 8. Red or white at sea (6)
- 9. We live on one (6)
- 10. Roman Year (4)
- 14. Chewy sweet (6)
- 15. Settle a debt (3)
- 16. Old invader (45)
- 18. Ships may wait for the tide here (3,5,7)
- 19. Mean to confuse label (4)
- 20. Quantity of money (3)
- 21. A Welshman (6)
- 22. This a coin or pancake (4)
- 24. Section of the Roman army (6)
- 25. Respect or exalted rank. (6)
- 26. Savage inhabitant of Central Asia (6)
- 27. Kings of the castle at Dover? (6)

DOWN

- 1. Remains of the twin of 5 across (11)
- 2. To wool or brows (4)
- 3. Green bottles? (3)
- 4. Dover establishment in need of a new home (9,6)
- 5. Gave name to a Hill, Road and Close here (6)
- 6. A2 or A20? (4,2,5)
- 7. Heritage gull? (3)
- 11. Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports (5,6)
- 12. Assess the worth (5)
- 13. Visiting these might be of grave concern (11)
- 17. Catherine and Peter were (5)
- 18. Distressed note will give one (4)
- 20. Red dog (6)
- 23. Unknown writer (4)
- 24. Feline whip (3)
- 25. The Queen (1,1,1)



The solution to crossword No 1 is on page 51



Explore
THE
ECOLOGICAL
PARK
ELMS VALE, DOVER

WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PROJECT

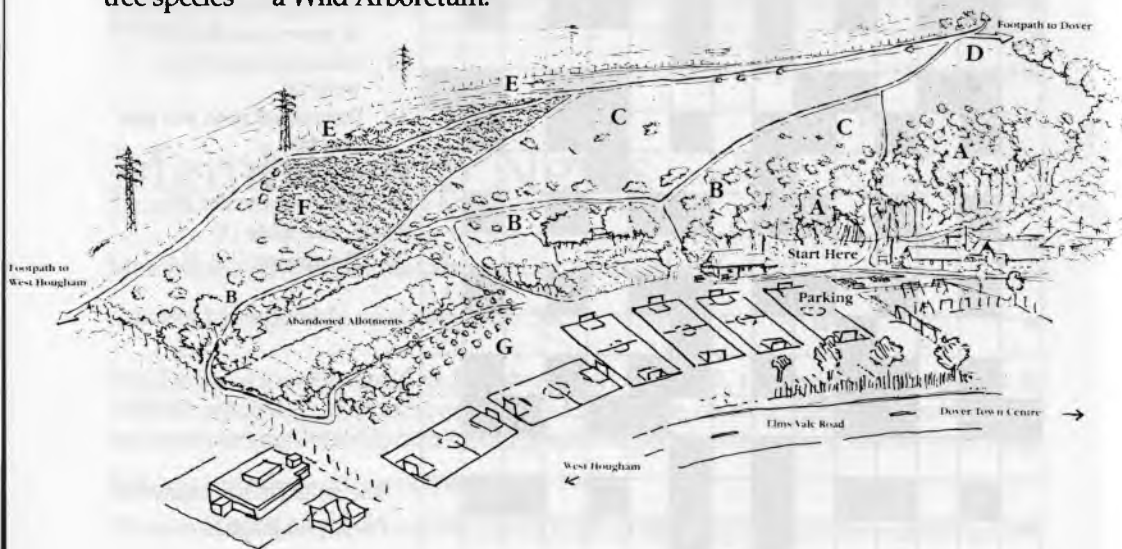


MELANIE WRIGLEY
Project Officer

THE ECOLOGICAL PARK, ELMS VALE, DOVER

Friday 15th March saw the official opening of the Ecological Park next to Elms Vale Recreation Ground. Known as Whinless Down, it is a small surviving area of ancient chalk grassland, 80 per cent of which has been lost in the past 50 years.

The Park was opened by Mr Sheila Whisker, Chairman of Dover Council Tourism Committee, and an outdoor information panel was unveiled. A cheque for £2000 was presented to Mrs Whisker from the Nature Conservancy Council to pay for the information board, leaflets and for 250 new trees to make a 'living museum' of native tree species — a Wild Arboretum.



The Park has been set up by the White Cliffs Countryside Project, and is being 143
designed and built by local schools with the help of conservation volunteers

The White Cliffs Countryside Project has been working with local schools to develop new ideas about how to use the countryside as an outdoor classroom.

A wide range of the intellectual and practical skills called for by the national curriculum can be learnt in a new and interesting way. This applies not only to Environmental Education and Biology, but also to other less obvious areas such as Maths, CDT, History, Religious Studies, English and other languages. An education pack is being prepared by the Kent Trust for Nature Conservation, with sponsorship from Eurotunnel, to provide prepared worksheets that tie in with the national curriculum, to enable schools to investigate Science, History and Geography on sites such as the Western Heights and other chalk grasslands around Dover and Folkestone.

A lady rang us asking to become a Voluntary Warden for the Ecopark because she regularly walks on Whinless Down and has spotted children and young lads using the new trees as practice for slalom on their bicycles and motorbikes. This illustrates how important it is to have Voluntary Wardens and to get the environmental message over to some of the young people!

Whinless Down is a lovely site which has spectacular views over Dover. It has a number of different habitats ranging from alkali chalk grassland to acidic heathland. The natural vegetation will be managed using "green" ideas to create an attractive refuge for wildlife and people.

We will shortly be introducing grazing around St. Martin's Battery on the Western Heights to improve the grassland. The lovable Dexter cattle should be there from the end of April or the beginning of May. Obviously litter is a particular danger to cattle, particularly plastic bags and any sharp objects.

We need more volunteers to help us with the practical work, and others to act as Wardens to keep an eye on the Western Heights and the Ecopark. If you have a little

time to let us know if there is any fly-tipping, vandalism or other problems your help will be gratefully received by the White Cliffs Countryside Project staff. Please contact us at the office at 6 Cambridge Terrace, Dover or call us on Dover 241806.

You are welcome to come along to the guided walks, which are all of moderate difficulty and are listed on the following page



Wood sage



Knapweed

I44	Sunday 19th May 2 pm	WILDLIFE OF THE WESTERN HEIGHTS Meet at Grand Shaft, Snargate Street 3 miles Dogs on leads allowed
	Sunday 2nd June 2 pm	FARMING AND WILDLIFE Meet at Little Farthingloe Farm Car Park, Folkestone Road, Dover 4 miles Dogs on leads allowed
	Sunday 9th June 2 pm	ARCHÆOLOGY OF THE WARREN Meet at 'Valiant Sailor', top of Dover Hill, Capel-le-Ferne. (A20) 3 miles Dogs on leads allowed
	Sunday 16th June 3 pm	WILDLIFE OF LANGDON CLIFFS Meet at the Ice Cream Kiosk, Langdon Cliffs Car Park 6 miles Dogs on leads allowed
	Sunday 16th June 7 pm	BIRDS OF ALKHAM Meet in Alkham Village Car Park 4 miles No dogs
	Sunday 23rd June 2 pm	EXPLORE THE ECOLOGICAL PARK Meet in Elms Vale Recreation Ground Car Park 3 miles Dogs on leads allowed
	Sunday 30th June 2 pm	WEST HOUGHAM WANDER Meet in Elms Vale Recreation Ground Car Park 3 miles Dogs on leads allowed

Further details of these walks, and details of others may be found in the leaflet: **WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRY GUIDED WALKS**, 7th APRIL to 30th JUNE obtainable free in local Tourist Information Centres and in Libraries. 21 walks are listed.

There is no charge for the walks but donations to the group(s) represented by the walks leaders are welcome. Advance booking is not necessary.

Proposed return visit to **CALAIS ACCUEIL** 5th October 1991

There have been several requests for more information about this event which was circulated with the AGM agenda.

As reported in *Newsletter* No. 9, the Society, last October, received in Dover a group of members of the French society: Calais Accueil, which welcomes and helps newcomers and visitors to Calais. They warmly invite us to return the visit and, as announced in the Programme on the back cover, we propose to do so on the 5th of October.

Our day's programme in Calais would be

similar to theirs in Dover: a conducted visit and a mayoral reception, after which we would disperse to find our own lunch and go shopping, before the return crossing. The conducted visit could be one of the following: the historic Town Hall, the church of Notre Dame, the school and museum of lace-making or the French terminal of the Channel Tunnel. Please let me or Lin know your preferences.

A booking slip will be sent out in due course, nearer the time.

LEO WRIGHT

A FREEMAN of DOVER ^{L45}

How did I become a Freeman of Dover? The short answer is that I married the right girl. Her father was a Freeman and I discovered that it was possible to claim it by marriage as long as Rosa was born "free", which she was.

The hereditary Freemanship was passed down from father to son (or daughter for her husband) and it was only by chance that Arthur Cloke, my wife's father, knew he could claim it. His father, Frederick, had died young and it was the arrival of voting papers after Frederick's death that made Arthur curious. "Your father was a Freeman and had the right to vote in elections", said his mother. Arthur rounded up his brothers and they all became Freemen.

At one time the privileges were various and were jealously guarded. These included the right to trade, and reduced rates for stalls, in Dover's market. They received a shilling at election times if they voted, and this was converted to ale at local pubs. There was an uproar whenever there was an uncontested election, and the Freemen demanded their shillings.

Apart from hereditary Freemanship it was possible to buy it for £20, and this gave you the right to trade in the town. If you attempted to do so otherwise you were fined 6s 8d (33 pence) a day.

You could also obtain it by completing an apprenticeship to a Freeman and it could be conferred on you by the Common Council. I can claim it by the fact that the Council made Thomas Ladd, a shipwright, a member in 1715. Jacob Todd was added to the Roll when he completed his apprenticeship to Luke Ladd (Thomas's descendant) in 1796. Thomas Cloke married Ann, daughter of Jacob, in 1826 and so it was passed down the line.



Joe Harman was admitted as a Freeman of Dover on 28th July, 1980

I should add that a son could not claim it until he was 21, and if a child was born before his or her father's admission they were not born free. I know of one family whose eldest son cannot claim it as his father was serving abroad and had not been admitted to the Roll of Freemen.

At one time I could have cried "fish" on Sundays and have grazed my sheep on the sidewalks, should I have wished to do so

J. HARMAN

146
A Potter
writes about
his work

MICHAEL
BAYLEY

I have been potting for about thirty-five years.

I think of my ceramics as primarily sculptural, even though many shapes develop around a basic pot form. From the raw material of clay I find I am instinctively creating forms and qualities found in the world about us. Not replicas of any specific object but forms embodied — as I hope — with the character and power of some half-remembered image which I have discovered earlier.

All shapes are made by hand — never on the wheel now. They have two rôles — first sculptural and then as a surface for images. Sometimes these are illusionistic, suggesting depth; for instance a distant horizon has a particular interest for me.

The technique I use for decoration is "agate" — that is the lamination of different toned clays. This produces rich and striking design possibilities reminiscent of those found in Nature.

The tactile side of my work is very important to me and glaze has on the whole no place in this. I would like to think of my work as possessing the qualities of wood, stone or rock. To this end sand is mixed with the clay body to give grit and



Composite pot 9 1/2" Laminated slab structure

edge to the touch and the firing is taken to stoneware temperature to give a rock-like **147**
hardness.

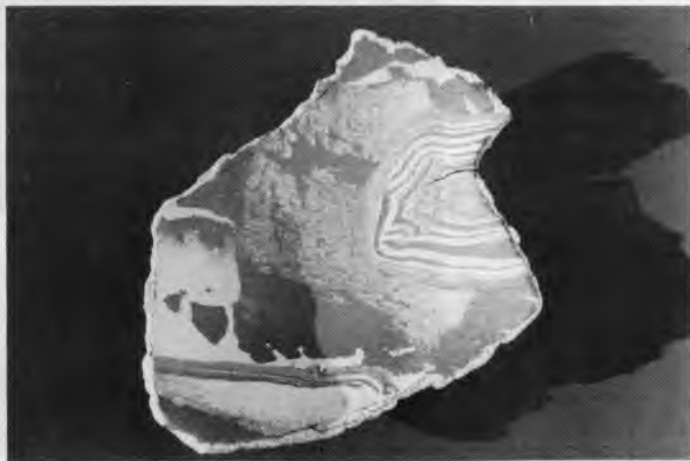
As regards colour—I have been happy to keep within a narrow band of warm ochres and browns with the occasional heightening of blue and white. Brighter colours, I feel, would distract from tonal relationships and texture.

I'm an outdoor person and am constantly taking in stimuli from my environment. I live by the sea, which, with its accompanying sky and coastline, its boats, marine defences and structures, is an endless source of interest and delight, not excluding the strange and exciting forms to be found in man-made debris thrown up on the beach. Inland we have an abundance of woods and hedgerows and until recently, around my home, some mighty specimens of beech tree. Whenever possible I visit the North where the rocks, mountains and wilderness have always had a special appeal to me. These images, collected in my mind and subconscious over the years and continually replenished, give me the resource I need.

In recent years I have begun to take an interest in the working process itself. I am aware now when I begin a new phase or sequence of work that I am pitching into the unknown. There is a precariousness which is both daunting and challenging. From experience I have learned to trust my instinct.

Alongside the risk of this situation is, I realise, a searching for order. Not a regular, predictable order but that complex variation which is found everywhere in the natural world; for example—the way debris is scattered on a beach after the tide has receded. I am intrigued by the apparently coherent relationship which seems to exist between objects in this ostensibly chaotic situation. Amidst this random array there appears to be an underlying rightness in the way stone lies next to stone and space, pattern and objects relate. It is constantly my objective to achieve just such a natural whole from a complex and varied situation—a sort of order out of chaos.

And this is where drawing comes in. I now know that studying form and structure is an essential base from which my ideas develop so whenever I'm able I draw and paint. Drawing



small shallow dish 12"

148 for me triggers perception and spatial awareness. It is a fundamental element in the whole process of making and rounds off for me a wonderful world of visual experience.

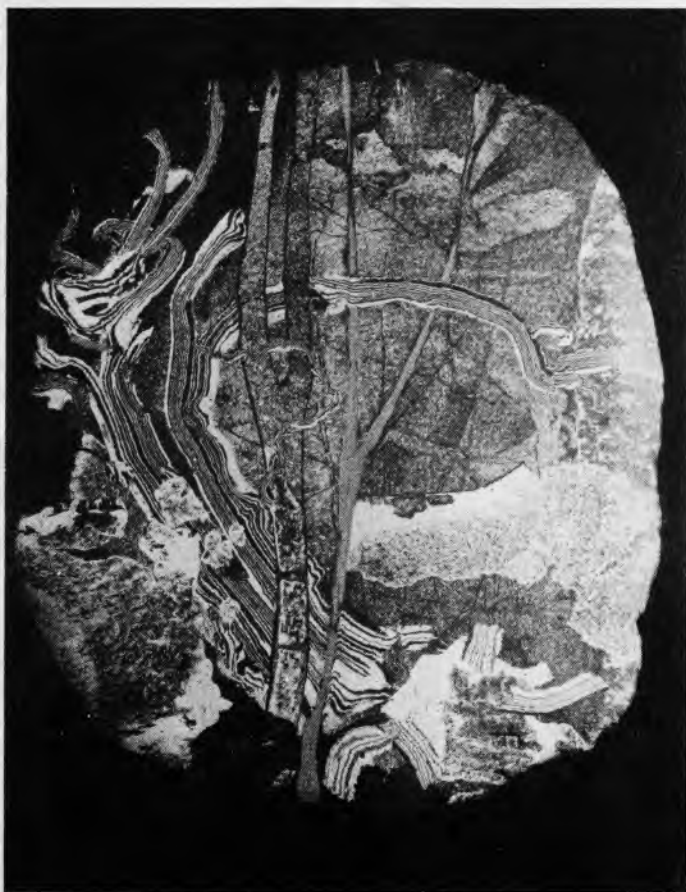
What attracts me to pottery is its breadth — for not only does it concern pot making but it also encompasses sculpture, drawing, paint and decoration. I suppose I am obsessive about it. A favourable response from people out there is good to have — but if there were none I would still pot and paint.

Member of the Craftsmen Potters Association of Great Britain and the Society of Designer Craftsmen.

Michael's work can be seen at CONTEMPORARY CERAMICS The Craftsman-Potter's Shop and Gallery, William Blake House, 7 Marshall Street, London W1V 1FD (This is near the Regent Street Liberty's shop).

Michael's can also be viewed by appointment. Please ring 0304 822624.

This is the second of a series in which local creative artists write about their work.



Small wall plaque
inlaid design 13"

The GOLDEN TRIANGLE: Castle Street to the Sea

PART 2

A. F. (Budge) Adams

In the early 1930's, from the "Castle Inn" at the bottom of Russell Street, Dolphin Lane threaded its way between the Dover Gas Company, a malthouse and Phoenix Brewery on the left and Lenev's Bottling Store (now Martin Walter's workshops) Lenev's Cask Yard, Flashman's workshop and Killick & Back, the drapers on the right, to reach the Market Square. It is thought by some to be the oldest thoroughfare in the town, being the natural route from the Castle via Hubert Passage, next to St James's Old Church, Russell Place and a causeway to the little settlement on the western side of the early harbour. I know of no proof of this theory but it is, at least, plausible. Under some parts of its present tar-mac'd surface there remain the cobble stones used to form the surface when the Paving Commission was, in 1778, given authority to collect stones from the foreshore (if the harbour authorities agreed!) or to use "good Kentish blue stones" to improve the condition of some of the roads in the town. (The gutter on the east side of Laureston Place is, I believe, the sole remaining piece of visible evidence of the use of these cobbles and I pray this evidence will never be removed as a result of the prevailing pursuit of "cost effectiveness", or, indeed, any other pretext.)

Along the line of the boundary between the present day East Kent Garage and the multi-storey car park was Phoenix Place, connecting Dolphin Lane and St James's Street. On its N.E. side was the featureless high brick wall of the Dover Gas Company but the other side was almost entirely taken up with two of Lenev's numerous malt houses. A few yards further on was St James's Place, with a row of cottages backing on to the brewery on its S.W. side and running on into St. James's Street. St James's Lane, a little further on, was, and still is, the road between the river and the frontage of the Brewery (now the multi-storey car park) and across the bottom of St James's Street to Townwall Street. This lane, from Dolphin Lane to St James's Street, in places rather less than 6 metres wide, was also cobbled and when rainy weather coincided with equinoctial springs was flooded by the overflowing river which was prevented from

entering the brewery by piles of sandbags stored in the yard in readiness. 149

The lower part of St James's Street, that is from Fector's Place south-westward, in the early 30's, still showed signs of its earlier importance. Square in the middle of the wall that surrounded the Gas Company's premises was the house of its Managing Engineer, Mr George Dixon (I well remember his two rather lovely daughters) and almost opposite, No. 54, a very interesting house, was the early home of Peter Hawksfield, the founder of the firm of coal merchants later taken over by Powell Dufryn and its subsidiary, Corral. By the 30's the house had been turned into flats. Next door was the Gordon Boys' Orphanage whose founder was the Mr T. Blackman, who was instrumental, with Mr E. Morgan, in forming the Boy Messenger Brigade that operated from Caroline Place. (Mr Blackman was also the treasurer and founder of the Victoria Seaside Orphans' Rest at Hesketh House in Laureston Place.) On Sundays the Gordon Boys wore full Scottish dress though during the week they were rather meanly attired in shorts and a jersey. The boys, themselves, were entirely responsible for the cleanliness of the home and for the washing-up necessary after every meal. Those of us who saw them daily gained the impression that their lives were not of the happiest.

From the orphanage to St James's Lane, on the seaward side, the houses were small and many were occupied by small traders dealing in second-hand goods or by general shopkeepers. Near the centre of this length of the street were two interesting relics of the days, in the early 17th century, when it was necessary to have fire lanes to separate groups of thatched-roofed houses. One such a lane was Townwall Passage, hardly more than a metre wide, that opened out into Townwall Street beside the "Sussex Arms" P.H. and the other, no wider, was St James's Passage, which ran into Townwall Street by the "Granville Hotel". In St James's Street, between these two passages, but on the other side of the road, at No. 79, was St Margaret's Place, a cul-de-sac of 9 houses arranged as in a courtyard. Nos 77 and 79 were large houses of four floors with the front doors adjacent to each other on the first floor, and approached by a flight of 9 or 10 stone steps parallel with the footpath and forming a jagged inverted V. The steps were dangerous as there was no handrail.

150 At the bottom of the street, on the NW corner with St James's Lane was the "Red Lion" Inn and Lodging House. and the 1881 census (regretably the latest that is available for inspection and research) reveals that beside the publican and his staff there were 30 others living there on the day the record was made. Opposite, that is on the seaward corner of St. James's Street and St. James's Lane, were two of the oldest buildings in the street and by their appearance, with an overhanging first floor, they might well have been in existence at the end of the seventeenth century.

St James's Lane led on into Townwall Street between the Ice House operated, when I was very young, by Mr William Smith, a fishmonger and poulterer at the corner of Thornton's Lane (the premises still exist as the Ristorante al Porto) and the Robin Hood Inn, which, with other premises north-eastward, was almost totally destroyed by bombs and shells during the 1939-45 war. I particularly remember the Ice House because I was one of the children of the

neighbourhood who were often, in summer time, sent there with a large wicker basket and 2d. (about four and a half pence today) for which sum the basket was filled with broken ice by Mr Smith's apparently always cheerful workmen. The filled baskets then were very heavy, I would hazard a guess they weighed at least 15 kilos, and we would frequently stop to relieve our arms and to suck a lump of ice. As long as the ice lasted we had refreshing cold drinks which our mothers made with lemonade powder and some substance, possibly tartaric acid, which to our delight made the drinks effervesce.

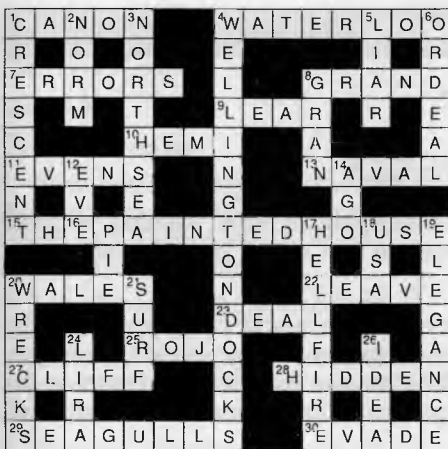
The tiny part of the original Townwall Street that still remains is from Bench Street to the "Britannia" P.H. at the corner with Mill Lane. The shop recently known as the Bench Street Newsagents was built for the wine shippers, Courts, in or about 1836. Some time prior to 1905 it was occupied by Fletchers, the first chain-store butchers to be established in the town and they remained in business there until after the 1914-18 war. Next door was

Wootton, the grocer's shop and many will remember the wide selection that in those days could be bought in such a well-established grocery and provision store. The next place was Goldfinch's butcher's shop (later moved to the corner of Cherry Tree Avenue and Buckland Avenue) and is now the Townwall Restaurant. Next to Goldfinch's, at the corner with Thornton's Lane, was Mr Smith's fishmonger's and poulterer's business where the fish was displayed on sloping marble slabs in the open windows and almost the whole of the front of the premises was hung with the shop's extensive stock of plucked and unplucked poultry — a present-day food inspector's nightmare!

Please turn to page 132



This site of the present day Ristorante al Porto, The Townwall Restaurant and, until recently, the Bench Street Newsagent's shop at the SW end of Townwall Street, on the occasion of the visit of Prince Arthur c1871. The Triumphal Arch was erected at the top of Snargate Street.



Solution to Crossword No 1

ISI

With apologies for the errors
(they were mine not Merril's!) AFA

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The Objectives of the Dover Society

founded in 1988.

- to promote high standards of planning and architecture
- to interest and inform the public in the geography, history, archaeology, natural history and architecture of the area
- to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest.
- And commitment to the belief that a good environment is a good investment.

The area we cover comprises the parishes or wards of Barton, Buckland, Castle, Lydden, Temple Ewell, Maxton, Pineham, Priory, River, St. Margarets-at-Cliffe, St. Radigund's, Town and Pier and Tower Hamlets.

Members receive three *Newsletters* a year and in each year the Committee organises about ten interesting events - talks, tours, visits, a Members' Meeting, a Christmas Feast, etc.

The Society gives Awards for improvements to the area, monitors planning proposals and supports, joins in or initiates civic projects and arts events.

Lydden Circuit

TAG/MACLAREN PROPOSALS

The Society has been eagerly awaiting this outline application and wishes to support strongly this scheme with the added assurance that the Council is commissioning an independent environmental assessment.

The proposals put forward by the developer reflect the 'world-class' reputation the company enjoys with an excellent package of environmental impact-limiting measures included in the very prestigious scheme. The extensive facilities for visitors to the improved circuit must be mentioned as of particular importance as an additional visitor attraction to the district.

However, the most significant impact on the local area is the employment opportunities that will not only be provided directly but also as a resulting spin-off. This is directly in line with all development plans for the district.

The Society does recognise that some noise nuisance may be experienced by closely neighbouring communities regardless of whatever measures are taken to minimise this and we therefore particularly welcome the Council's independent assessment of this potential problem area to ensure that 'all possible' provisions are taken.

In short, the employment opportunities and visitor attractiveness together with the international prestige of such a quality development must make this scheme a real shot in both arms (and probably legs as well!) for the district.

ADRIAN GALLEY
Chairman, Planning Committee

The Draft Dover and Western Parishes Plan for the next 10 years

Extracts from Dover District Council's publicity leaflet.

WHY WE NEED A PLAN

There are major questions ... about the future of Dover and its countryside:

- ◇ Where should land for new businesses be provided to replace the jobs lost at the Port because of the Channel Tunnel?
- ◇ How can the local economy be strengthened?
- ◇ Where should new houses be built?
- ◇ What must be done to protect and improve the environment?

- ◇ How should the demands for building near major roads be dealt with?

The challenge is to encourage growth while protecting and improving the best of the town and the countryside.

DOVER COUNCIL'S SUGGESTED PLAN

The 'Draft Dover and Western Parishes Local Plan' suggests where new building may take place. The map shows where it applies. The Plan contains many ideas, but its main concerns are how to create jobs and prosperity through new industry and tourism while

protecting our environment. Copies of the Plan are on view, and for sale, (£20) at the Council's offices.

THE PLAN

The main ideas are:

◇ **Businesses** - Expand Dover Business Park and allow building at Capel and Farthingloe (Channel Tunnel Workers' Camp).

◇ **Local Economy** - Support the Port and the construction of new main roads, attract visitors to the area and improve the town as a shopping and service area.

◇ **Housing** - Most houses should be built in the Dover area, although a few could be built in villages if the right places can be found.

◇ **Environment** - Protect and improve important buildings, public spaces, streets and the countryside. Protect important plants, wildlife and archaeological remains.

◇ **Stop unwanted building.** The Plan thoroughly considers the area's needs so it should stop development in the wrong places, particularly near new roads in the countryside.

You can find out more by ringing 0304821199. Ask for Mike Ebbs (ext. 5083) or Mark Mortimer (ext. 5083). Or write to them at the



Forward Planning Section, Dover District Council, Honeywood Road, Dover CT16 3PG.

We hope that members saw the exhibition in the former Nationwide-Anglia B.S. premises in the Market Square or at the Council Offices at Whitfield.

We propose to include a commentary/evaluation in the next Newsletter.

EDITOR

Memories of Dover

Many of our Members have lived in Dover all, or a large part of, their lives.

Some have indicated on application forms an interest in, and knowledge of, Old Dover.

It is intended to include in the next issue of the *Newsletter* a miscellany of memories of Dover. If you can contribute one or two paragraphs on your most lasting, most interesting or most vivid memories of Old Dover, please send them to me for *Newsletter No. 11*. Old photographs may also be useful.

MERRIL LILLEY
(Acting Editor for Issue No. 11)



AN UP-TO-DATE GUIDE TO ITEMS REQUIRED BY LOCAL CHARITIES

(In Dover unless stated otherwise)

Compiled by Anne Mole

- ALUMINIUM FOIL AND
WASHED BOTTLE TOPS**
Oxfam, 41 High Street
RSPCA, 47 London Road
- BAGS (CLEAN: OF ANY KIND)**
Sense (Help for Deaf/Blind),
40 High Street
- BEADS**
Hospice Shop, 75 London Road
RSPCA
Sense
Spastics Shop, 17 Market Square
- BUTTONS**
Hospice Shop, RSPCA, Spastics'
Shop
- CARPETS**
Sense
- CONTAINERS OF ANY KIND
(FOR STORAGE)**
Sense
- DRINKS CANS**
Greenpeace (St. Margarets)
- FOREIGN COINS**
Hospice Shop
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- JEWELLERY**
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- MAGAZINES**
Hospice Shop
RSPCA
- PAPER**
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Reach Road.
Collected from houses in village,
by arrangement, every third

Saturday in month.

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- STAMPS**
Greenpeace (St. Margarets)
Oxfam
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Spastics' Shop
- GOOD CLEAN CLOTHES,
BRIC-A-BRAC, BOOKS, etc.**
Welcomed at most charity shops]
- CONTACTS: -at shops unless shown
otherwise.**
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23 Royston Gardens,
St Margarets-at-Cliffe.
- HOSPICE SHOP:** Mrs Walsh
- OXFAM :** Mrs Jean Pursey
- RSPCA:** Mrs Long
- SCOUTS:** Mr Ivor Disbrey
852532 (home)
- SENSE:** Linda Monroe
- SPASTICS 'SHOP:** Mrs Danvers
(0634 578954)
- DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL,**
Transfer Station, Honeywood Road,
Whitfield. **Tel: 821199**
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Sat: 08.00 - 16.00.
Sun: 09.00 - 13.00.
- Recycling facilities available for metal,
newsprint, paper, glass, oil, rags, CFCs,
asbestos cement products, cans (must be kept
separate)
- Telephone for advice on other items or to
arrange collection of bulky items.

Please can you help?

THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR OFFERS OF HELP WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING

CHAIRS

Could you bring one or more folding chairs to the Bay Museum for "Conviviality and Conundrums" on 24th May?

If you can, please let Lin Clackett know how many you can bring. Please also, if your offer is accepted, attach your name to each chair.

ADVERTISING

Miss Joan Simmonds who until now has dealt with this is sorry to have to give up this work because of her other, increasing commitments.

Income from advertisements is essential as a contribution towards the production costs of our journal and the Society would be grateful if an energetic member would offer to contact existing and potential advertisers, to arrange for 'camera-ready art-work' or other 'copy' and to accept responsibility for the financial matters involved.

Unfortunately we can't offer you 23K but you will certainly earn our gratitude.

If you would like to discuss exactly what the job entails please contact Budge Adams on 208008 or at 24 Castle Avenue.

PUBLICITY

To devise ways of ensuring that the Society achieves maximum appropriate publicity in a variety of media.

EDITORIAL MATTERS

To help mainly with the preparation of the *Newsletter*, e.g. writing/editing proof - reading and production.

PRIZES for RAFFLES, etc.

The Committee would be grateful for offers of suitable items. Please contact Lin Clackett at the address shown on inside front cover.

The Society is also looking for members who would be prepared to act (on a one-off basis) as distributors of the "Newsletter" when any one of the permanent distributors may be temporarily unavailable. 155

If you would do this please contact Budge Adams as above.

VIEWS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

We should like to include a collection of comments by children and young people in *Newsletter* No. 11. The Editor would be grateful if such comments could be sent to her. Please see details under "DEADLINE" on page 104

"TOWARDS AD 2000"

NINETEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF AMENITY SOCIETIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**WITHERSDANE HALL,
WYE COLLEGE
SEPTEMBER 14/15 1991**

There will be addresses on "The Future of Local Government" (bearing in mind current proposals/threats to abolish county or district councils and/or to create regional councils, on Kent County Strategies for AD 2000 (by the new County Planning Officer), on architectural conservation (by Jonathan Carey, R.I.B.A.) and on the pros and cons of golf courses as an alternative use for agricultural land: etc. There will be a tour of Ashford development sites (including the proposed International Passenger Station) by the Ashford Planning Officer and talks by amenity society representatives on homes for gypsies and other contentious matters. The conference is held in first class accommodation at moderate charges: about £45 for the weekend. Further particulars from:

**Conference Secretary, KFAS,
Mrs Elizabeth Walker, MSc,
'Clowes House',
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'Finchcocks'

at Goudhurst, Kent

Saturday, 8th June 1991

'Finchcocks', built in 1725, is a fine example of a Georgian baroque manor house with a front elevation attributed to Thomas Archer. It has been little altered.

In 1970 it was acquired by the pianist Richard Burnett and houses his magnificent collection of historic keyboard instruments, most of which are restored to full playing condition. The oak-panelled, high-ceilinged rooms provide a splendid setting for recitals of music played on the instruments, including harpsichord, clavichords, chamber organs and early pianos, for which it was written.

The garden, with its attractive views over the local landscape, has an interesting stock of plants and trees.

There is a restaurant which provides lunches from £3.50, coffee and teas. Picnics may be consumed in the garden (or under cover if the weather is poor).

The cost is £12 per person, which includes coach travel, entrance to house and garden, coffee on arrival and a recital of about one hour.

Numbers limited. Please apply early. **DEADLINE 24th MAY.**

ITINERARY

9.30	Leave Dover by Seath's coach.
11.30	Arrive 'Finchcocks'. Coffee.
12.00	Recital
1.15	Lunch in restaurant or picnic (not included in price) Visit house, garden and 'Finchcocks' shop.
4.00 approx	Leave by coach
6.00 approx	Arrive Dover.



VISIT TO 'FINCHCOCKS', GOUDHURST, KENT, 8th JUNE 1991

Name (please print)

Address

..... Membership No.

I wish to bookplace(s) and enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to The Dover Society.

Signed

Names of members or guests who wish to join the coach at:

Pencester Road

Buckland Mill

Opposite 'The Pickwick', Temple Ewell

Please send or take this slip and your cheque to

LIN CLACKETT, The Warehouse, 29/30 Queen's Gardens, Dover CT17 9AH

THE DOVER SOCIETY

Please note: Annual Subscriptions become due on 1st April

RENEWAL NEW APPLICATION Please tick as appropriate

Please Print in Block Capitals

NAME (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

ADDRESS

.....

POST CODE TELEPHONE

I agree to abide by the Constitution of The Dover Society.

Signed Dated

(A copy of the Constitution may be read in the Reference Department of the Dover Public Library. It is based on the Model Constitution published by the Civic Trust.)

MEMBERSHIP: £4.00 per person per year.

Please make cheques payable to The Dover Society and forward to the Membership Secretary: Mrs Merril Lilley, 5 East Cliff, Dover CT16 1LX

It would help us in our planning if you would fill-in some or all of this section.

Special Interests.....

.....

If you belong to other relevant organisations would you note them, please.

.....

.....

Can you offer any expert knowledge or experience? Please state.

.....

.....

If you have changed your address since your last subscription payment please tick this box and please tick the next box if you are willing to assist, occasionally, with the distribution of *The Newsletter* etc.

Very occasionally we may allow our mailing list to be used by other reputable societies and groups. Under the Data Protection Act you are entitled to withhold your permission for this. Please indicate with a X in the box if you DO NOT wish your name and address to be divulged.

PROGRAMME

MAY 24

Friday, 7 for 7.30

**Members and
potential members**

CONVIVIALITY & CONUNDRUMS

The Bay Museum, Beach Road, St. Margaret's Bay
£3.50

See separate details and application form

JUNE 8

Saturday

**Members
and guests**

VISIT TO 'FINCHCOCKS,' GOUDHURST, KENT

Superb collection of historic keyboard instruments
displayed and played in a fine Georgian house. Pleasant
garden, restaurant, shop. See details and application form
on page 59.

SEPTEMBER 7

Saturday

**Members
and guests**

VISIT TO WYE COLLEGE AND WYE

Full-day visit by coach with conducted tours of the
College and Wye.
Details available later

OCTOBER 5

Saturday

**Members
and guests**

TRIP TO CALAIS

Mayoral Reception in Calais, coach tour of town, visit to
civic/historic site, shopping, lunch.

OCTOBER 14

Monday 7.30

Open meeting

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

St. Mary's Parish Centre, Cannon Street, Dover

Speaker: Miss Lillian Kay

NOVEMBER 25

Monday 7.30

Members only

MEMBERS' MEETING

St. Mary's Parish Centre, Cannon Street, Dover

Another opportunity for members to discuss their
concerns

DECEMBER

Members

and guests

CHRISTMAS FEAST

Details will be announced in September *Newsletter*



The Pines Garden & The Bay Museum

Beach Road, St. Margaret's Bay
Tel: 0304 852764

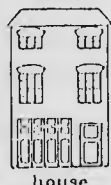
GARDENS — Open Daily & Weekends throughout the year from 10.00am. Closed Christmas Day

MUSEUM — Open Daily & Weekends (closed Mondays & Fridays) 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm. Closed during September to Easter. Open by special arrangements with Curator for Groups through-out the year.

ADMISSION: a small admission charge is made to the Gardens and to the Museum

The Warehouse

The Ware



Antique pine, painted furniture & cane

Lin Clackett

29/30 Queens Gardens
Dover, Kent CT17 9AH
Tel: (0304) 242006/201158

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