

The  
Dover  
Society

# Newsletter

No 11

September 1991



Philomena Kennedy's drawing of the recently restored façade of the Market Hall and Museum

£1

# 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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Marsh, The Rt. Hon. The Lord Rees, Mr Jonathan Sloggett, Mr Terry Sutton.

## THE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Jack Woolford,

1066 Green Lane, Temple Ewell, Dover CT16 3AR Tel: 0304 822871

VICE-CHAIRMAN: John Gerrard,

77 Castle Avenue, Dover CT16 1EZ Tel: 0304 206579

SECRETARY: Leo Wright,

"Beechwood," Green Lane, Temple Ewell, Dover CT16 3AR Tel: 0304 823048

TREASURER: Ken Berry

30 Waterloo Mansions, Waterloo Cres. Dover CT17 9BT Tel: 0304 214963

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Sheila Cope

53 Park Avenue, Dover CT16 1HD

SOCIAL SECRETARY: Lin Clackett,

The Warehouse, 29 Queen's Gdns., Dover Tel: (daytime) 0304 242006

PRESS SECRETARY: Sybil Standing,

16 Harold Street, Dover, CT16 1SA Tel: 0304 210715

CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE : Adrian Galley,

3 Wellington Court, Dover Road, Walmer, Deal. CT14 7JP Tel: 0304 368348

CHAIRMAN OF PROJECTS COMMITTEE : John Owen,

83 Castle Avenue, Dover CT16 1EZ Tel: 0304 202207

EDITOR: Merrill Lilley,

5 East Cliff, Dover CT16 1LX

A.F. Adams, Jeremy Cope, Phyllis Dobbins, Philomena Kennedy,  
Margaret Robson, Clive Taylor, Ken Wraight,  
and Mike McFarnell (Advisory Member).

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COVER ILLUSTRATION: *In 1836 Dover's first Museum was opened in the Guildhall in the Market Square but in 1848 was moved to the first floor of a new Market and Museum built on the south side of the Market Square. The Museum was badly damaged by enemy action in the 1940s and much of the collection was destroyed. Its interesting frontage is now restored and incorporated in the complex of the Museum and White Cliffs Experience.*

# EDITORIAL

The presentation and format of the *Newsletter* is now established and familiar to our readers. The task of a new editor is, therefore, made lighter because of the precedents set by the original, formidable, editing/printing team of Kennedy/Adams. Nevertheless, it was with some trepidation that I exchanged the rôle of membership secretary for that of editor, aware of the high standards to be followed and maintained. I wish to thank all members who have helped me in this task and I hope our readers will find *Newsletter 11* a worthy follow-up to previous issues.

The heartfelt thanks of all members must be conveyed to our previous editor and founder of the *Newsletter*, Philomena, who has, regretfully, relinquished the post due to pressure of work. Fortunately she is to remain on the Committee, where her advice and work are invaluable.

There is much to report in the four months since our last publication. Dare we venture to say that we have cause for optimism regarding the future of the town centre. Since its official opening on 1st May the White Cliffs Experience has reported good attendances, exceeding all expectations, as has the new museum. One no longer hears reference to the former as a 'white elephant' now that a daily stream of visitors, of all ages and nationalities, throng to its doors and even queue to obtain entry. The two refurbished shops in Cannon Street are a welcome addition to the area and have made a successful start. The rumour that a developer has bought the decaying Metropole site in Cannon Street is confirmed as fact. Work has been completed in Pencester Gardens and 'Shop Around' has opened in Pencester Road (an improvement on empty shops there).

The Dover Society has mounted a display in an empty shop window in the Market Square since 1st May; it was organised by John Owen, our Projects Committee Chairman.

Our Local Issues Update (page 176) reports great changes at the port, at both Eastern and Western Docks. The latest news on the Shakespeare Cliff site and on the Battle of Britain memorial at Capel, make interesting reading in the same section. The Tag/Maclaren proposals for Lydden circuit do not go to public enquiry, so this project is set to embark on its next stage of planning. There is also a report on the exhibition which detailed the plans for the new A20. Work has now started on the town section of the road by the contractors, Norwest Holst. I can reliably report that the first work at East Cliff began at 7.55 am on Tuesday 13th August, opposite my bedroom window.

The Elms Vale Tram Shelter (another successful project supported by the *Dover Society*) has been finished and can be seen in all its restored splendour. Work on Lydden Pond has continued, with the help of the children from Lydden School.

A notable addition to the town which has come into its own since the last *Newsletter* is the exhibition space on the first floor of Dover Museum, reported to be one of the best exhibition spaces in the county, perhaps even in the south-east. This issue includes

reviews of the three exhibitions to date and it is hoped to make this review section a regular feature of the *Newsletter*. 163

Grateful thanks are extended to all members who sent us their memories of old Dover. These provide fascinating reading and, although it was intended to make this a feature of this issue only, this could well be continued if more members are inspired by these extracts to write their recollections for posterity!

The May meeting "Conviviality and Conundrums", at the Bay Museum was a successful and convivial evening and the June visit to "Finchcocks", although less well-attended, was an enjoyable outing. Both events are chronicled elsewhere in the magazine.

The Autumn and Winter programme promises to be an entertaining one. Three events in the near future are the visit to Wye College (7th September), the visit to Calais (5th October) and the evening at the Town Hall (21st September) with the Kent Concert Orchestra. Most members attending these events will have already ensured their tickets or places. Tickets for the concert can be obtained at the door if you have not already booked. It is hoped that large numbers support the concert and full details of the programme appear in the middle pages of this issue.

The first of the Autumn meetings in St. Mary's Parish Centre is the Presentation of Awards on 14th October, always an interesting evening, with the awards ceremony in the first part and a talk by Miss Lillian Kay after the interval.

The second meeting is for members only, on 25th November. If you have any questions to put, or opinions to voice, make sure you attend. It will take the usual format, of several talks by different speakers on current local issues and then, after the interval, an opportunity for all members to contribute to the discussion

On 14th December follows the now traditional and incomparable Dover Society Christmas Feast, at the usual venue, Dover College Refectory. My advice – return your booking forms as soon as you receive them in November, as each year places are in greater demand.

An outline of events in 1992 appears on the back cover. More details will be available in the January issue. As always offers of help will be welcome and suitable prizes for raffles at future meetings will be gratefully received by the Social Secretary.

Editorial thanks to all contributors for the articles, letters, memories and photographs or drawings used in this issue. Offers of contributions for the next *Newsletter* will be very welcome. Please send in your 'copy' at any time — don't wait for the next deadline.

Finally, greetings to all our members; welcome to our new advertising manager, Steve Peters, to our new membership secretary, Sheila Cope, to new committee member Margaret Robson and to the 23 new members who have joined the Society since 1st May.

MERRILL LILLEY

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## TO WOULD-BE CROSSWORD COMPILERS

If any of our readers would like to compile a crossword for the next issue, new talent will be welcomed. Crossword grids should be 15 x 15 squares and conform to usual crossword conventions.

ED.



# THE WHITE CLIFFS EXPERIENCE

Opening by H.R.H. The Princess Royal  
1st May 1991



*photo: Department of Tourism & Marketing D.D.C.*

It was cold but luckily fine when we assembled in the Market Square to await the arrival of the Princess Royal and we were surprisingly but delightfully entertained by the Ermine Street Guard, which turned out to be a cohort of the Roman XX Legion (from Chester), splendidly arrayed in helmets and breastplates, swords and spears, shields and animal skins, horns and helmets, preceded by a standard bearer and marshalled by a monumentally stentorian commander. They marched and counter-marched, charged and counter-charged with swords, then spears and finally with shields overhead (in phalanx fashion) before breaking ranks to form a guard of honour for the Princess.

The Princess, who was royally punctual, was greeted by a felicitous address of welcome by Cllr Paul Watkins, Chairman of the District Council, who briefly explained the four-year conception and realisation of the White Cliffs Experience as a partial answer to the Channel Tunnel's challenge to Dover's port-based economy. Cllr Watkins then assured Her Royal Highness that although lunch would be served, £1 per head would be contributed to her "Save the Children Fund" and that further donations would be solicited as guests left the Town Hall.

I myself was honoured to be presented and briefly to discuss with Princess Anne the extent of the contribution the White Cliffs Experience might make to Dover's economic problems. To my observation that it could only be partial Her Royal Highness emphasised that many people—including she herself—would continue to prefer the ferry experience: which I endorsed. I briefly outlined the Dover Society's cooperative-but-critical relationship with Dover District Council and instanced the cleaning of the river and the re-planting of Lousyberry Wood as examples of our positive contribution to the future of the town.

Civic occasions are opportunities for making contacts and I was fortunate to be able to suggest to one of our Vice-Presidents, Lord Rees, our former MP, that he might usefully address out next AGM in April 1992 on his recollections of Dover. I got a provisional acceptance. Vice-President Ivan Green suggest that we should erect bird boxes on the trees in Connaught Park and Ian Gill, former Dover Borough Town Clerk (who accepted a rebuke for inflicting Burlington House on Dover and a compliment on his rescue of part of the Roman Fort from Borough Council pneumatic drills in 1971) undertook to provide them. John Clayton, Director of Planning and Technical Services, described current developments of the projected Riverside Walk Fund, which the Dover Society is supporting, and Peter Sherred and Ron Dryden of the Chamber of Commerce welcomed our undertaking to help in furthering their development plans.

As we talked in the Stone Hall a combined schools orchestra played with astonishing verve and precision in neighbouring Connaught Hall. Altogether it was my happiest civic occasion in forty-one years as a Dovorian-by-adoption.

JACK WOOLFORD

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As Members were advised on page 97 of Newsletter No. 9, The Society is prepared to supply Cardix Binders for the A5 Newsletter for £3.50 each, providing a minimum of 50 orders are received. To date orders number exactly 20. Unless 50 are ordered at one time it will not be possible to provide binders of the specification proposed, i.e. blocked in gold on the spine with 'Dover Society Newsletter' at the price quoted and indeed, it may not be possible to have them gold blocked.

If you do not have an order form handy just write to Budge Adams at 24 Castle Avenue.



Letter to the Editor:

## The last word on Lousyberry

I almost hesitate to write this now for fear of spoiling the fun which so many of your contributors have been having with the name "lousyberry", but when I first heard of it I checked

in the invaluable and delightful "*Englishman's Flora*" by Geoffrey Grigson and found the following:

"... With names from both goat and cat, dog and bitch, pegs and skewers and spindles, the beauties of EUONYMUS have had a raw deal. Add *louseberries* since the fruits were baked, powdered, and sprinkled on the hair of small boys to kill their nits and lice. (Evelyn, John: *Silva or a Discourse of Forest Trees*, 1664)"

In Surrey the fruits of the spindle tree are called DOG TOOTH BERRY, in Dorset, HORSE BUNS, in Gloucestershire and Warwickshire, LOUSEBERRIES and PINCUSHIONS and in Somerset, POPCORN.

So the culprit is the Spindle Tree or EUONYMUS EUROPAEUS and the explanation a little mundane, it would seem. Surely I am not the only person in Dover who loves and uses this marvellous book or does it take a foreigner to read *The Englishman's Flora* ?

PAMELA TAYLOR

*'Some 30 years ago, when we lived in The Avenue, Temple Ewell, in much of our very wild garden Euonymus Europaeus grew abundantly. Our children referred to the bushes as 'spindle berry trees' or dogberry trees. Regretably I do not, and did not, possess a copy of the Englishman's Flora'*

BUDGE ADAMS



# MARKET SQUARE SHOP-WINDOW DISPLAY PROJECT



July 1990 saw the announcement in the local Press that the District Council was initiating a scheme for the improvement of Dover's main street by allowing charitable organisations to use empty shop windows at a peppercorn rent. The Council, it was reported, would enter into a new agreement with the owners of empty properties allowing them to lease their shop at a moment's notice. As a Society we decided to join the scheme.

At first we thought in terms of the Christmas period, then March 1991. Both deadlines came and went without success, though not for want of trying, for a considerable amount of preparatory work had been done by way of getting a suitable team together to implement the project. May 1st seemed to suggest itself as a new objective but the chances of success were slender. It certainly

concentrated the mind and indeed heralded a change of fortune.

The premises of Dickensian fame in the Market Square became available through the good offices of the owner who warmed to the idea immediately. We had just a week to get it in place! We would have to modify drastically our more ambitious plans already in being and move. A succession of lucky breaks and marvellous co-operation ensued.



The District Council and Museum both agreed to take a window each flanking our own facing Castle Street. The ready help we received from the Museum was invaluable.

Sunday afternoon in April saw a strong working party of members thoroughly cleaning the shop and windows ready for the display. More than a touch of humour pervaded the atmosphere! The display was installed the following day - that of the 29th April. A little exhausted, we breathed a sigh of relief that we had got there we were not sure how! At least there was one less empty shop window in town.

The display comprises photographs, press cuttings and Society information depicting the Society's objectives, meetings, social and cultural events along with some of its achievements.

168 Our Civic Trust Award gained in 1990 has a central position and the whole makes for an attractive and professional presentation.

Every few weeks curling photographs especially have required attention but we have largely been able to maintain the high standard set by our designer, Philomena Kennedy.

The display will continue for as long as possible as another Society contribution towards 'backing Dover'.

JOHN OWEN

*Chairman, Projects Committee 27.6.91*

*The Society acknowledges with thanks the willing help of Mr & Mrs John Wilkins, the owners of the premises, without which this project would not have succeeded.*

## Reviews

### Exhibitions at Dover Museum

## DOVER – A PORT IN A STORM

5th APRIL — 12th MAY 1991

*Photography by* JANINE WIEDEL

PHILOMENA KENNEDY

At first sight the black and white of this exhibition makes an austere impact. The monochrome is enriched by the full range of tones from near whites to rich darks and solid blacks, enlivened by line and texture. The sheer size of some unframed enlargements emphasises their abstract effect.

A closer look reveals a sharp eye for character, visual dialogue, humour, drama and the unexpected but revealing juxtaposition of shapes.

Ray Pidgeon is shown, suspicious but determined, at his garden gate contemplating the destruction of his much-loved home in the interests of road transport. The founding committee of The Libra Club, apparently united only by physical proximity, is shown with Pat dozing, Joan standing apparently fending off an awkward question or comment and Lulu immersed in reading. Two elderly ladies at the 'Young at Heart' Tea Dance in the Town Hall, demonstrate their high kicks as they stare at the photographer, while two members of the White Cliffs Sequence Dance Club inevitably recall Joyce Grenfield's song about "dancing bust to bust." A TIR trucker crouches to eat a snack, from a compact 'kitchen cabinet' slung beneath his lorry, at the Eastern Docks. A standing figure gazes from the deck of a ferry; the foreground horizontals of benches enlivened by trainer-encased feet projecting from largely-invisible recumbent bodies. A couple embrace in a shelter on the Prince of Wales Pier, the man's feet seemingly entangled in the rope which leads to a lifebelt in the foreground. A young boy looks apprehensively into the 'Lost and Found' tent at Dover Hospital Fête which shelters a line of girls in flowery wreaths, laced bodices and gingham skirts.

Drama is evident in the breaking of a huge wave at the Eastern Docks watched by a woman and child bent against the gale and the silhouetted figure of a man on the

shingle-strewn promenade. Dun kirk veterans walk down through St. James's Cemetery, to commemorate lost comrades, the slanting flags they shoulder making a series of diagonals and curves. Young soldiers casually carry modern weapons. Behind them, slightly hazy in the sunlight, tombstones lean at various angles. Strong diagonals emphasise the action of Sealink crew-members on a training exercise. A young man with a tattooed arm hauls in an inflatable life-raft, the rope beautifully counteracted by the tilt of his safety-helmet,

This collection was the first shown in the new Museum's temporary exhibition gallery. It was commissioned, by the Cross-Channel Photographic Mission, from Janine Wiedel, an American who has lived and worked in England for twenty years and who specialises in the documentary approach. She has exhibited widely and her work is used by national newspapers, magazines, book publishers and television. Janine found that "Dover remains staunchly English and individualistic, shaping attitudes that seem impervious to the constant flow of traffic to and from the Continent."

A paper-back book with the same title as the exhibition, containing reproductions of many of the photographs, is available. The collection will tour to other venues.

Should you wish to see the excellent permanent and temporary exhibitions at the Museum you would be well-advised to buy an annual season ticket for £2, or to join the Friends of Dover Museum which, for £5, will offer you not only free entry but a programme of lectures, visits, etc.

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## DOVER IN PICTURES

The May-June Exhibition at Dover Museum

LEO WRIGHT

Let me place on record at once that this exhibition gave great pleasure to many Dovorians. I saw visitors who retraced their steps, some who went round a second time and others who returned to the town-plan to check and re-check this or that change over the centuries.

The exhibition included oils, watercolours, pen and ink, engravings, maps, plans and photographs, relating to 500 years of our history. This represents a selection, a mere forty per cent I was told, from the huge collection which I was shown many years ago by the then Deputy Town Clerk, W. Ransome, stored away in the cellars and tower of the Maison Dieu.

The presentation deserves high praise. The large number of items led to no sense of being overloaded in the relatively small area. The overall impression, with the alternation of colour and black and white, photographs, prints, water-colours and oils was attractive.

The arrangement was not chronological but based primarily on display and a rough classification. This means that it is difficult to give a logical account of the exhibition. I can only try to give a summary of its scope.

Their size dictated locating the huge photographs of Dover street scenes in the 1980's around the balustrade of the well — still leaving a clear view of Sir William Crundall's copy of Landseer's huge "Peace": a family with their children's saddled goats on the East Cliffs.

The "loose classification" could perhaps be headed: Maps, Subjects: the Town (the oldest), the Castle, the Harbour and Events.

Water-colours were to some extent grouped. There were the blurred rugged sketches of 1820 Romanticism, with their melodramatic light and gouache and water-colours by typically talented Victorians, often documentary. Especially pleasing, as well as being documentary, were those of William Burgess. More recent, one was glad to see a familiar name, Mrs D. Mowll a picture of Temple Ewell in 1931, which had been shown at the Royal Academy.

Of the "headings": *the Maps* formed landmarks from 1595, 1641 .... to date. The development of *the Town* was very fully documented. A very "modern" ink sketch of 1795. The very handsome Custom House 1560-1682, when it was demolished. The Pier District slums 1825. The New Town Hall 1881. Documentary photographs very rich from the 1890's. *The Castle*: to name but one: Mackie's fairy castle version, 1840 Romanticism. There was a whole bay of views of the *Harbour* and shipping. *Of Events*: The Night Shift at Work (1845) building the Wellington Dock Quay by the light of flares. The painting of the dinner in the newly finished reservoir 1854. The blasting of the Round Down Cliff to make way for the Shakespeare Cliff Tunnel and the trestle line to Folkestone 1856. The installation of a Lord Warden, the Marquis of Dufferin 1892.

The total impression was enriching, leaving a sense of history and a vision of the periods of prosperity, even elegance and also dearth, through which Dover has passed.

It was very pleasing and interesting to see two very striking ink and wash sketches by Randolph Schwabe. He evoked almost abstract patterns from unpromising subjects. Professor Schwabe was head of the Slade and his Dover association was through his daughter Dora Cobbe, wife of the chief surgeon at the Royal Victoria Hospital during the War and after.

Members of the Dover Society were particularly pleased to see 1990 represented by ten Philomena Kennedy's, in her Douanier Rousseau naïf manner. These pictures have his intuitive skill to solve architectural problems, his sense of scale and decorative sense. They are equally free from Romantic or photographic concepts and they invite us to look again at the subjects when next we walk past them.

Before leaving the subject of exhibitions of Dover in Pictures one must include a word of praise for what the "One Off Gallery" and "Castle Fine Arts Studio" contribute to

Castle Street and to Dovorians. They represent another "first" in post-war Dover. They both had special exhibitions of recent paintings of local subjects by talented local artists. These were very attractive and some would surely have been *inter pares* in the annual Royal Water Colour Society exhibition.

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## **"THE MASTER AND THE SPY"**

### **The Current Exhibition at Dover Museum**

The excellent gallery space at Dover's new Museum provides plenty of scope for this unusual exhibition. Christine Waterman, the Dover Museum Curator, is to be congratulated, not only for the high standard of research but also for the original idea – to explore Noel Coward and Ian Fleming's connection with this part of Kent.

Great friends, they both, at different times, lived at the "White Cliffs", a house which stands almost on the beach at St. Margarets Bay. Clearly Ms Waterman has become fascinated with her subject and the enthusiasm with which it has been approached, together with the drawing together of such a variety of material makes for a most successful exhibition.

Personal memorabilia, (including two of Coward's famous dressing gowns!) posters, books and photographs, have been borrowed from private and national collections, and the exhibition gathers together for the first time some of his unusual paintings, including one on loan from the Queen Mother, and Dover Museum's own "White Cliffs", (a view of St Margaret's Bay purchased by the District Council in 1988.) The strong connection with Dover and St Margaret's Bay is underlined by extracts from Coward's diaries and correspondence.

Similarly the exhibition shows connections between the work of Ian Fleming and the locality – particularly such James Bond books as "Moonraker", where Fleming used the Café Royal, in Bench Street, and the Swingate Inn as inspiration for scenes in the novel. An original idea is the amazing array of James Bond "merchandise" on view, and the stall dedicated to the James Bond fan club. Walk this way for your PATATILLA 007 Crisps!

I very much enjoyed the exhibition, which is open till the 8th September 1991, during normal Museum hours.

Gavin Wright

Group Manager Dover/Deal  
Arts & Libraries Department

# GREEN FORUM



## *The Dover Society, The River Dour and Sewage Disposal*

LEO WRIGHT

It is exceedingly difficult to report the saga of the River Dour and the Sewage Situation at reasonable length. To recount it in full would be tedious – unless I were allowed even more space for anecdote! I will therefore just give a blow by blow account of the steps taken.

First in the field were Thanet, when they succeeded in getting agreement for a new sewage processing plant at Richborough.

5th Sept. '90. We came in at the large public meeting at Deal: "Deal with Sewage", over which our Chairman presided.

3rd Dec. '90. Folkestone came next with a meeting, again chaired by our Chairman.

18th Jan. '91. The Dover District Council called a public meeting about the flow of the Dour.

4th Feb. '91. We had our well attended public meeting about the River Dour and Sewage Disposal. It was, oddly enough, at this time that the Temple Ewell Dour began to flow again!

Relevant reports of these meetings have appeared in earlier *Newsletters*. Much correspondence followed, with no replies from the Folkestone and District Water Company until David Shaw, our M.P., intervened.

21st Mar. '91. When the FDWC published a Drought Order Application there were so many objections that a hearing by a Government Inspector (shades of Gogol!) was ordered, to be held in Temple Ewell. The objections were not against the Drought Order as such but concerned extraction and the drying up of the Dour and above all of the lakes. The problems of prolonged drought were appreciated but it was impossible to know whether FDWC were doing their best, as there was no communication.

16th May '91. The enquiry was conducted with the traditional courtesy and firmness of Inspectors by Mr David Ward of the D o E. It lasted nearly three hours, so that I can give only an impression here, to keep within reasonable length.

The NRA explained their recommendations. While recognising the severity of the drought, they still considered that the tributaries should be safeguarded as far as possible: this to be achieved by imposing restrictions, thereby reducing demand, by continuing the control of levels and by the discharge of compensatory water, *although reducing both*. (These last two refer only to extraction from Stonehall.)

Temple Ewell, River and Dover were all represented. Although the meeting occupied a weekday afternoon between 30 and 40 people were present. There were several very expert, specialised and well-informed local speakers. Everyone on both sides of the

floor agreed that there were wider problems than those under discussion. The local historic and scientific knowledge established the relentless lowering of the water-table throughout this century, unrelated to climate and owing to extraction. Also, that extraction, other than at Stonehall, affects the tributary streams and lakes and that neither a return to normal average rainfall nor reducing demand will solve the problem.

**14th May '91.** The Inspector recommended that the Drought Order be made, subject to the Special Conditions (Stonehall).

**4th Jun. '91.** The Secretary of State accepted the recommendation and made the Drought Order, "subject to the modifications". The fountain in the Market Square was duly turned off.

The revised Drought Order, with the modifications (which include a "reduced" minimum flow and compensatory water *if pumping takes place at Stonehall*) will not ensure that the stream will flow and the lakes remain full. It was agreed at the hearing that it might even be advantageous to FDWC *not* to make use of Stonehall and therefore *not* be required to discharge compensatory water. They could continue, as in 1990, to use Lye Oak, Drellingore and Lower Standen, where the licenced conditions are not related to river flows. In 1990 this led to the drying of streams and lakes. But only Stonehall (and Coombe Farm) were the subject of the enquiry.

The only subsequent event at the time of writing has been a meeting of Mr Dunks, General Manager and Secretary of FDWC and Mr Shaw at the House of Commons. Mr Shaw is seeking to arrange a further meeting in Temple Ewell of Mr Dunks and interested parties.

So, where do we stand, well advanced into another summer of drought? To quote the government inspector's report: "In the absence of heavy rain the river is likely to cease again this summer". It will be very surprising if it does not dry up again. The enquiry meeting did establish that there had been a grave lack of information. It urged more energetic location of leaks and more rapid repairs. It looked towards metering and the construction of a Broad Oak reservoir. What then can amenity societies do that is positive? One answer is that they should positively support and indeed press for work to start on the proposed Broad Oak reservoir. This could save two years of a public enquiry.

**13th Jun. '91.** Our Committee decided to press for the Broad Oak reservoir. We shall of course be vigilant over the other suggestions.

What progress have we made towards our second target; better sewage disposal? Headlines in the local and national press announce: "Beaches Fail Test" – including our beaches, even St. Margaret's beach, where it was hoped to reach the coveted Blue Flag standard. Well, the NRA has at last made an interim, albeit a cagey reply to our enquiries about the future of the outfall at Dover. I quote from their letter: "The standard of treatment required will be set by the NRA on the basis of the sensitivity of the receiving water ..... As you will understand, it is not appropriate for me at this stage to indicate which standards would be applied to sewage discharged from the Dover outfall". The NRA and Southern Water are being overtaken by legislation. Changes in Government policy announced in 1990 and the requirements of the EC Directive adopted in March 1991 require more action than had been planned. So what can we do? We can continue to write, to press, to lobby by every means to persuade the NRA

174 to classify the seas off the White Cliffs as "sensitive". "Sensitive" because they are used for bathing, sailing and fishing. That classification would necessitate better sewage disposal than the minimum: i.e. repairing and lengthening the sea-outfall and the mere removal of screenings and "settled sewage solids".. (See what has happened at Sandgate!)

To quote from Blake's "Jerusalem" – well, not quite:

We will not cease from Environmental Fight  
Till we have  
Improved the water and sewage situation  
In White Cliffs Green and pleasant land!

#### POSTSCRIPT

#### Screened sewage effluent into the Dour.

Correspondence in the local press and questions from numerous members and others made it clear that Dover was very alerted to the Council's application to the NRA to discharge screened sewage effluent, in an emergency only, to the River Dour from land adjacent to Wood Street Pumping Station.

It sounded horrific and we asked for explanations. The "emergency" has to deal with exceptional flood water. In such exceptional circumstances, estimated as once in ten years, houses in Wood Street can be flooded. (At such times the river Dour itself would be in flood, which would reduce the impact.) Our Committee resolved that the application could not be opposed. A differing long-term solution can only come as part of an upgrading of the infrastructure.

L.W.

Correction to: the account of 4th Feb. Meeting in issue No. 10. Page 116.

*para 5 should have read "As the River Dour met the 1B classification standard etc." (not 16)*

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# Deadline

## for CONTRIBUTIONS

The Editor welcomes contributions suitable for the Newsletter. Illustrations to articles and other appropriate visual materials, are particularly appreciated.

The deadline for Newsletter No. 12 is Monday 18th November. Please note that contributors should state the number of words in any article submitted.

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

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# AN UP-TO-DATE GUIDE 175 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

Oxfam

RSPCA

## JEWELLERY

RSPCA

## MAGAZINES

Hospice Shop

RSPCA

## PAPER

St. Margarets Scouts. Please leave  
weather-proof packages outside  
Scout Hut in Parish Hall Car Park,  
Reach Road.

Collected from houses in village,  
by arrangement, every third

Saturday in month.

## POSTCARDS

Hospice Shop

## STAMPS

Greenpeace (St. Margarets)

Oxfam

RSPCA

Spastics' Shop

## GOOD CLEAN CLOTHES,

BRIC-A-BRAC, BOOKS, etc.

Welcomed at most charity shops]

**CONTACTS:** -at shops unless shown  
otherwise.

**GREENPEACE:** Mr & Mrs P. Woodward,  
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

Mon - Fri: 08.00 - 16.30.

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.

## LOCAL ISSUES UPDATE

### LYDDEN CIRCUIT – THE TAG/MACLAREN PROPOSALS

*From Adrian Galley, Chairman of the Planning Committee*

Most members will be aware that the Tag/Maclaren proposals have moved a significant stride nearer implementation, with the decision of the Secretary of State for the Environment not to 'call in' the planning application for a public enquiry.

After careful consideration of the concerns of the neighbouring communities, the view of the Society was that a public enquiry would be of little material benefit. The developer's consultants had done all that could be done to minimise the environmental impact and the whole project could be jeopardised as a result of the delays inevitable if a public enquiry took place. It was felt that the whole project was far too important, strategically, for the entire district, to be lost due to bureaucratic backlog!

Despite the close detail of the proposals, this was only, in fact, an 'outline' application. The Society, and doubtless many others, will be awaiting the opportunity to comment on the finer points of the scheme.

### THE NEGLECT OF LISTED BUILDINGS

We have recently formalised the concerns, that many people have been expressing for some time, about the deteriorating condition of a number of important listed buildings in the town. The two most noticeable examples are the old Victoria Hospital, High Street, and Castle Hill House, Castle Hill (formerly the Conservative Party Headquarters). These two buildings seem to be visibly crumbling and appear to need urgent attention. It is felt to be important that owners of property, especially listed property, need to be reminded of their obligations to attend to the upkeep of their buildings. With this in mind, we are in touch with Dover District Council, who are to inspect these two buildings again and determine what action is appropriate to ensure that this neglect is not allowed to continue.

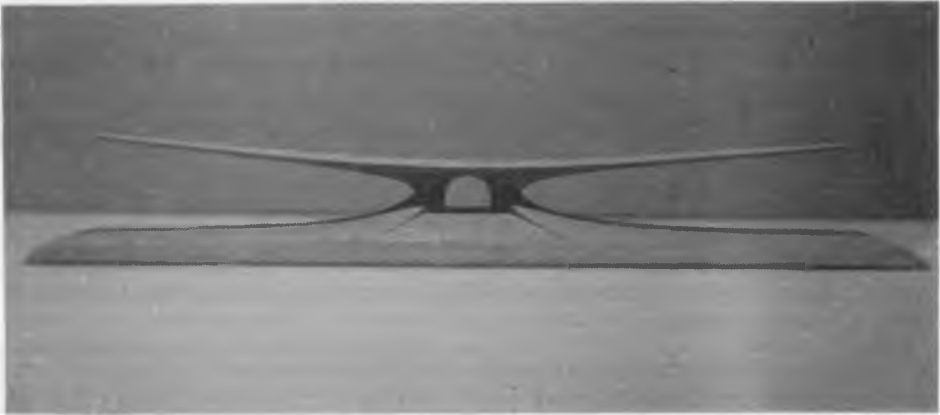
### EMPTY SHOPS IN CANNON STREET

At last there is some news of the much-discussed empty shops in Cannon Street. A developer has bought, and is obtaining planning permission for, shops in the Metropole building. He has also applied for permission to re-furbish the flats above the shops and, subject to the Fire Officer's recommendations, should receive this permission within the near future. In the meantime we are doing our best to persuade the developers to at least mount window displays, should the commencement of the work be further delayed.

### BATTLE OF BRITAIN MEMORIAL, CAPEL-LE-FERNE

Concern has been expressed about both the principle and the detail of this scheme. The Society has supported both the siting of the memorial (which will be an additional visitor attraction in White Cliffs Country) and the proposed accompanying visitor facilities and exhibition space. However, we wished to seek assurance that the monument itself would be sympathetic to both its location and its purpose.

The following is an extract from the reply received from Wing Commander Page, the



project initiator and chairman. "The wing shape depicts that of a fighter aircraft of the 1940 period, and the archway in the centre will have two sculptured birds depicted in full flight." The name of "these birds, which are indigenous to these Isles, was also the name of the engine which powered both the Hurricane and the Spitfire, namely, the Merlin."

## WORK ON THE A20 EXTENSION

*From Phyllis Dobbins.*

An excellent exhibition mounted by the Department of Transport at the Town Hall gave full details of the A20 extension from Court Wood to the Eastern Docks. Officials from the department, the contractors and landscapers were present to answer questions.

The plans are very close to those put forward at the 1987 public enquiry. The principal change being that instead of a roundabout at the foot of Woolcomber Street there will be traffic lights, regaining about 2 metres of land from the side of the Leisure Centre. Facilities for pedestrian access to harbour and coast include an underpass at Aycliffe and at the foot of Bench Street and a pedestrian crossing near Marine Court.

To provide sufficient space for the dual carriage-way at East Cliff a new sea wall will be built. This means considerable noise for the residents, but monitors are being installed to check noise levels. The work here includes piling and concrete facing for Castle Jetty, which Dover District Council hopes will be taken over by the Ministry of Transport.

Here, and elsewhere along the route, trees and shrubs will be planted. There will be plant boxes to separate the new promenade from the road. It is hoped these will be in keeping with the character of the area.

Any complaints arising from the construction work may be referred to the Complaints Commissioner, Sir Donald Murray (who is already responsible for complains about the Channel Tunnel!)

## CHANNEL TUNNEL – SHAKESPEARE CLIFF RECLAMATION AREA

*From John Gerrard, Vice-Chairman.*

Eurotunnel has recently produced a consultative document concerning the future use of the Shakespeare Reclamation Site and a meeting of interested parties was held at the Dover District Council Offices on 17th July 1991.

Dr Kate Kershaw of E.T. gave a comprehensive description of the detailed work that has been going on behind the scenes to ensure that in ecological terms the best possible planting and landscaping solutions are found. It was most interesting to hear just how much trial planting has already been successfully carried out, and the results of this will be useful for later work.

E.T. indicated that a subsidiary company will be responsible for the management and development of the site and, whilst the east end which contains the cooling plant will for obvious reasons be restricted from public access, it was intended to give wide access to the public in the remaining areas. There was, however, some discussion regarding the question of short term restrictions to some areas whilst the new plants establish themselves.

The original proposal to restrict private vehicular access from the site and provide busing has now been abandoned and the present proposals allow for a limited sized car park of about 150 vehicle capacity. In addition to the car park it is likely that there will be a small pavilion and café in the central section of the area.

Perhaps not surprisingly there was a strong contingent of anglers present at the meeting and they indicated that in their view this site would provide one of the finest angling venues in the U.K. They would like to explore the possibilities for holding National and International angling competitions there, suggesting possible turnouts of 800 or more anglers at a time. This news obviously failed to thrill some of the environmentalists present and it would appear that E.T. will have its work cut out to achieve a sensible balance between interested parties in this regard. Based upon our experience in Dover Harbour, I took the opportunity of giving E.T. advance warning of the problems of litter and fishing hooks!!

An aspect that gave particular pleasure was the confirmation that the low-level coastal walk will be re-opened at the end of the construction period. A wide promenade with protective seawall will run along the entire length of the site, and access steps will be provided at each end.

E.T. also indicated that they will be making special arrangements to provide access for the disabled.

All in all, a very interesting presentation and one that confirmed that Eurotunnel is taking most seriously its responsibilities for managing this important site in a manner that adequately reflects its environmental importance and its amenity value to this area.

For this they are to be congratulated.

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## WESTERN DOCKS

*From John Gerrard*

Messrs L & R Leisure P.L.C. have now been appointed as consultants to carry out a market analysis of development options for the Western Docks. Following completion of early studies, a master plan will be developed.

It is hoped that construction work on the first phase development of the Wellington Dock will commence towards the end of 1992.

At present the critical eastern end of the site is occupied by the Board's Maintenance Department and they will be re-located in their new headquarters (currently being constructed at the Eastern Docks) early next year.

The Board has recently invested in a further 67 yacht berths in the Wellington Dock, bringing the total to 104. In addition, it has provided a greatly improved service to visiting yachts and, as a consequence, we are seeing a most encouraging increase in yachting activity in the port.

Plans are now well advanced to utilise the old train ferry dock for the importation of ballast fill.



*Dover Harbour Board has recently installed 67 new pontoons in the Wellington dock. This brings the total number available to 104. Each berth is equipped with running water and a 13 amp electricity supply. The pontoons were designed, constructed and installed by Simmonds Marine (Projects) Ltd.*

*On the following page: Dover Cargo Terminal's record single cargo – 4,400 tonnes of New Zealand apples – arrived on the Seatrade vessel Schoener in May 1991*

## EASTERN DOCKS

The two new wave-piercing catamarans have now arrived and are operating from their new berth, which, contrary to some press releases given out by Hoverspeed, was finished on time. Initial reaction to the modified craft is favourable but we shall have to await the winter storms to see how good they really are.. Meanwhile Hoverspeed has announced that it intends to close the Western Docks Hoverport down during the winter months. Members may have noticed an interesting maritime operation going on recently, when a huge floating crane was lifting the bridges and portal structure for No. 6 berth back into position. These were temporarily removed in order to facilitate the widening of the berth to take the new generation of bigger and wider ferries that have started to arrive. SUKL/Stenna has already introduced two new ferries within the last few weeks and P & O will be bringing four large new freight ships on stream during the next few months. In addition R.T.M. will be introducing a large new multi-purpose ferry on the Ostende route later this autumn.

As a result of the introduction of these new ships, the Board is having to build yet another large berth at a cost of about £13.5 million. Construction of the berth will commence this autumn and is scheduled for completion at the end of next year.



In my earlier article on the demolition of the pens (*Newsletter No. 8*), I referred to the subsequent provision of new storage sheds for general cargo on that site and our hopes for the development of that trade. I am delighted to be able to report that our investment is indeed paying off and we are now seeing a significant increase in this type of traffic – so much so that we are already planning the provision of extra shed space adjacent to the quay, in order to provide cool storage facilities for the fruit trade.

Although we are going to have to reduce our numbers somewhat in the run-up to the tunnel, we are determined to improve our performance and the quality of service that we provide and to extend the scope of our activities. In doing so we intend to provide the Port of Dover and those who work in it with an assured future.

Watch this column!

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# MEMORIES OF OLD DOVER

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## STROND STREET

LILLIAN KAY

I lived at 56 Strond Street, just opposite the heap of coal on to which Hawksfield's unloaded the colliers from Northumberland and Durham, and the piles of timber which provided such forbidden joys to the local children. In those days we were allowed 'out to play' after tea. The timber was always piled with one end absolutely flat; we could clamber up the sides, or see-saw on the planks projecting at the far end, and for some reason our elders thought this was dangerous. The road of course was perfectly safe: just a few horses and carts, and the very occasional motor car, spotted far away along Commercial Quay travelling at about 15 m.p.h. A worse hazard was the engine pulling trucks of coal which appeared out of the Harbour Station, chuffed along Strond Street, round the dock to Union Street, over the swing bridge to either the Prince of Wales Pier, or right along the Sea Front to the Eastern Arm, all preceded by the man with the red flag. This also caused trouble when one was old enough to ride a bicycle, for the wheels slipped neatly into the railway lines.

On Sundays we nearly always had winkles for tea. A boy came round with a basketful which he had collected off the rocks on Saturday and we bought a basinful for a penny. At tea a needle was provided by the plate, to slip off that covering across the opening and wrinkle out the tasty part. Unfortunately the really tasty bit is the tail, and one has to be quite expert and give a very gentle twist to bring out the wrinkle whole — otherwise the tail is ungetatable. I wonder if I could still do it?

## DOVER GUIDES

MAY BRADLEY

The human variety, not information books!! The Girl Guide movement was very strong in Dover in the 20s and 30s, when there were some 16 companies in the town, plus one in most of the villages. Most were attached to the Churches (St. James's, St. Mary's, St. Andrew's, St. Martin's, Wesleyan, Congregational, also at the Duke of York's School, St. Ursula's, St. Hilda's, Crabble, Priory, Holy Trinity, etc.) Each year we had District Banner Competitions for Swimming, Sports and Company Competitions, plus the yearly Guide Play at the Town Hall, which our District Commissioner, Miss Pat Elnor (daughter of the Vicar of St. Mary's Church) produced in fine style. If we met her in the town in mufti, a smart half-salute was expected; there must be a number of 'Old Guides' who remember her rather autocratic manner, but she was a splendid organizer and we had many happy years in the Guides.

In my 'neck of the woods', at St. James's, we had Brownies, two Guide Companies and Sea Guides (later Rangers). We studied astronomy, sea shanties, boat management, swimming, and were once invited over to visit Calais and joined a procession to celebrate some event, which I have now forgotten. I remember being very annoyed at not being able to open the windows of our bedroom — put me off the French for a long time!!

The first Sunday in the month at St. James's the whole lot of us, joined by the Scouts and Cubs marched to church headed by the pipes and drums of the Gordon Boys with colours flying — not

much traffic in those days. (Happy memories of Miss Wishaw, Sylvia and Joyce Watkins, Madelain Clipsham, Kathleen Gigg, Kath Godfrey, Edna Meadows, Sylvia Skey, Jean Marinden, Evelyn Dawson, Jessie Marsh.) I remember meeting the Chief Guide, Lady Baden Powell, over at Hawksdown, and getting a last look at Sir Robert when he disembarked from the cruise liner in the harbour.

When I was enrolled as a Guide in 1918, at boarding school in Ipswich, our Headmistress was our Commissioner and to take our Promise we were dressed by our Patrol Leader with hat, belt, tie, shoulder knots and white haversack. That promise I have tried my best to carry out and only wish more young people could have the help and guidance of those days.

## ENTERTAINMENT *DAHLIA HARRIS*

Dover is my home town, and was also my husband's, so we always had a great love for it, as so many people do. When I was growing up we had a really lovely big theatre here, called the 'Hippodrome', which was in Snargate Street, and it was very well attended, especially when the show was "Local Talent." I am sorry it is not there now, but it was bombed by the Germans, as the elder citizens will remember.

We also had the Granada picture house, with a beautiful organ, in Castle Street; the King's Hall, the Queen's Hall, the Plaza, and in Buckland was the Regent, later renamed the 'Odeon.' On the Sea Front was the Buffs' Drill Hall which held some good dances. In Maison Dieu Road was the Co-op Hall, a really good Social and Dance Hall. On Bunker's Hill there was a jolly good little Scouts' Hut in which were held dances, socials and beetle drives, jumble sales, etc. - so reasonably

priced for admission that my sister and I were quite regular customers there and made lots of friends. Before the war there was also the big Burlington Hotel where they had a beautiful big Dance Hall, a roller skating rink, a boxing ring (also used for wrestling and weight-lifting) and 'keep-fit' was also practised there.

At the bandstand on the Sea Front where the local military and marine bands used to play, it was only 6d to sit in a deck chair and listen. There were bathing machines on the beach, where people who were shy could change into their bathing costumes. My sisters and I had a lively girlhood. Where is it all now?

## SEA BATHING *WINIFRED COPE*

Swimming off Dover Beach was rather different when I was young, than it is now.

There was no undressing on the beach between 8am and 8pm: we had to use the bathing cabins situated in the Clock Tower area. I felt so grown up walking on the duck boards which were laid from the Promenade to the sea and intersecting the rows of cabins. I think the charge was 2d. (2 old pence).

Then in all-over swim suits and rubber caps we went into the sea and swam to the raft floating off shore: always there was a boatman rowing up and down and keeping an eye on everybody.

I remember so well the rubber roller wringer which we all used to take the water from our swimming suits and the galvanised bath that caught the water.

I feel so happy that with so much alteration: our Sea Front is basically the same, but soon the eastern end will be very much altered.



## A SENSE OF SMELL SHIRLEY DOWLE

Among the dreadful, frightening memories of the war I have two totally different memories—two very aromatic smells.

I can almost hear some of you saying "How can that be during a time of hard food rationing?" Let me enlighten you.

My Dad—Mr Frank Abbott—had a small-holding, with about 40 pigs, 100 chickens, rabbits, a horse, etc. In the cookhouse, dominating half the space, was a huge copper fuelled by a fire underneath. Twice a day—morning and evening—this copper would be half filled with water. Into this was thrown buckets and buckets of "swill". This swill was people's left-over food—potato peelings, cabbage leaves, apple cores, etc. Householders had to keep these in a separate container from their ordinary rubbish. After about 1–2 hours all this would be bubbling away and shovelful of bran would be added to thicken it. By this time the smell was like that of a massive stew or casserole. It always made me feel hungry. This mixture was ladled out in buckets and so taken to feed the pigs.

I used to go with my Dad in his lorry to collect the swill from people's houses. In addition we would collect from the boats and the Army transit camps, especially the one in the old oil mills in Limekiln Street. Here I found my second favourite smell and my first love. A Catering Sergeant took a fancy to me, especially my curly hair. He used to call me "Curly Shirley". Each week he would make me a tray of "DOSH". This was rich, dark, treacly toffee. What a blessing it was to me to help stretch my sweet coupons. Oh! how I loved that man—and I was all of five years old! They say the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. I consider it to be the other way round.

I have only to smell a stew or casserole cooking or toffee being made and my

mind and my nose play tricks on me and I can easily imagine that I am five years old again

## NINE DECADES A DOVORIAN

*DICTATED BY HARRY FAGG.*

I was born in Dover in 1901 at 176 London Road, opposite Buckland Infants' School. I started there at three years old. I remember there was an abbatoir just behind the school, a coal merchant and a coffin maker.

When I was about seven, one of my friends and I played hookey and went to look at the abbatoir, and when we got there an ox was being slaughtered. I was sick on the spot and ran all the way back to school. In the end I was so ill I was sent home anyway.

The night the first zeppelin came over in 1914 my parents were watching from the window. I woke up when it dropped its bombs near Dover Castle; they killed a rabbit and a blackbird.

When Bleriot landed in 1910 I was eight years old. It was very early in the morning, but when we heard about it we ran up to the Castle. We got a good look at the plane even though there were policemen all around it. Afterwards people were charged sixpence a look.

When the *Preussen* was wrecked in Fan Bay (now called Langdon Bay) it was loaded with crockery. Our "gang" and I climbed down the cliffs to get at the china.

I did service with the St Martin's Scouts at the beginning of the war. Bert Brown did duty at the bottom of Whitfield Hill at Billy Crundall's house, later taken over by the army. We acted as messenger boys for the military. I joined the mine-sweepers in 1917.

One of my uncles, Ben Curtis, worked on the wreck of H.M.S. Glatton, sunk in Dover Harbour with all hands. It was

*Dover from the Pier*



↑ Marine Parade

c. 1904

↑ Marine Court

↑ Sea Baths

*The Esplanade, Dover.*



↑ The Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club c. 1904



at the bottom of St James St. c. 1900



Townwall Street before 1952

Picture at bottom left by courtesy of the *Dover Express*, the others from Budge Adams's own collection

loaded with explosives and was on fire. Glatton was a ship of the Monitor Class. She was sunk by torpedoes because if she had exploded, Dover would have been destroyed. When the order came from Admiral Sir Roger Keyes to sink, no warning was given to the 65 men on board and they were all lost. My uncle was a taciturn man and, on his return from work, was questioned by his wife, my Aunt Flora (my mother's sister) on what it was like down there; were there any bodies, etc.? His reply was, "You had your tea?

Well, I want mine".

His son Cyril (who died recently) was also 26 years in the Navy and a diver for Dover Harbour Board. He, like me, was an hereditary Freeman of Dover, through our mothers, whose maiden name was Williams.

I hardly recognise Dover now. It's all changed so much, and so many places have been built over, like Plum Pudding Hill, but I have a lot of very happy and exciting memories.

## Visit to CALAIS ACCUEIL

As reported in Newsletter 10, the return visit of the Society to Calais Accueil will take place on October 5th. The day's programme in Calais will include a mayoral reception at the Town Hall and a visit to the museum to explore the history of lace-making in Calais. Members will then disperse to find their own lunch and go shopping before the return journey.

Members who originally expressed interest in this trip will have confirmed their bookings by the time this Newsletter is printed.

However, it is not too late to join the party! There are still a few places left. If you are interested in joining us, please get in touch with Lin Clackett, Social Secretary, The Warehouse, 29 Queens Gardens, Dover, telephone 242006.

## *As others see us . . . . .*

It is refreshing to read the comments of outsiders, writing about Dover. Children from an out-lying village and students on a language course (extracts in this issue) did not have any criticisms of the town.

Also, I note that the Dover Express has printed, in the last month or so several letters from visitors, ex-residents, friends of residents, which comment favourably on the cleanliness of the town and the increased number of places of interest to visit, mentioning, in particular, the Museum and the White Cliffs Experience, and also the old favourites of the Castle and Roman Painted House. Outsiders do not make any special mention of our empty shops, perhaps because they see such sites in all towns as symptomatic of the present recession.

Do you have any such comments or letters from your friends and visitors to the town? If so, could we include them in the next issue? What do others think and say about our town?

ED.

# SERENADE

## THE KENT CONCERT ORCHESTRA

21st September 1991 at 7.30 pm

in

### THE CONNAUGHT HALL

LEADER : JOHN PERKINS

CONDUCTOR : PAUL NEVILLE

SOLOIST : MARIE-NOËLLE KENDALL

In the *May Newsletter* we expressed the hope that we would be able to present this concert in the Autumn. We are delighted to confirm that we are able to do so.

The programme, which combines several classical favourites with works by three English Composers is as follows :

Entrance of the Queen of Sheba (Solomon)	..	<i>Handel</i>
Chacony in G minor	.. ..	<i>Purcell</i> arr. <i>Britten</i>
Piano Concerto No. 9 in Eb (K271)	.. ..	<i>Mozart</i>
Interval		
Symphony No. 4 in F	.. ..	<i>Boyce</i>
Serenade in E minor Op 20	.. ..	<i>Elgar</i>
Symphony No. 29 in A (K201)	.. ..	<i>Mozart</i>

## THE KENT CONCERT ORCHESTRA

This Kent based orchestra was formed in 1989 from professional players resident in the County in order to bring popular classics to audiences in the South East. Many of its players are former members of established symphony orchestras in this country and abroad and among the strings can be found members of the Becker and Vega Quartets. The woodwind and brass sections also include several established soloists.

The Orchestra now regularly appears in the Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, the Winter Gardens, Margate and the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury. This year's itinerary adds Herne Bay as well as Dover. Their excellent concert in the hall of Saint Edmund's School, Dover was reported in our *May Newsletter*. The Society is particularly pleased to be able to support this successful local orchestra.

### The Conductor : PAUL NEVILLE

Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Neville who founded the Kent Concert Orchestra, had a distinguished career in the Royal Marines with service as the Director of Music aboard the Royal Yacht and ten years as the Principal Director of Music. He frequently broadcast with the Band of the Royal Marines School of Music, recorded with them for E.M.I. and toured extensively at home and abroad. His Orchestra of the Royal Marines School of Music was of course well-known in Deal and also in London and the provinces..

### The Soloist :

### MARIE-NOËLLE KENDALL

Marie-Noëlle, who was born in 1966, began her early studies with Albert Ferber and was later a pupil of Ferenc Rados in the Liszt Academy, Budapest. A finalist in the 1982 BBC TV "Young Musician of the Year" competition, she has since performed widely in Britain and abroad, including recent appearances on BBC 2 with the BBC Scottish Symphony and in London with the Philharmonia Orchestra.



*Tickets for this concert will be available at the Tourist Information Centres, Dover Express Office, The Music Box, Forwoods of Canterbury and at the door on the night. Price : £5. All unreserved.*

# Lydden Pond Project

## *A Progress Report*

The problem has been that in recent years the pond dries out completely with attendant damage to the natural clay lining of the pond in the shape of cracking and extensive spreading of dock weed which further undermines the ability to retain water. Additionally there is no natural feeder stream running through nor is there any evidence of a spring or springs. The source of water is simply surface drainage from the adjacent high ground and highway. When it rains, water drains into the pond via gulleys and pipes. In the recent rainy weather we have seen the water lie for only a few days before drying out.

Consideration has been given to lining the pond – at least partially. Two options seem to present themselves: a butyl liner or a clay lining. Both are expensive processes but the latter appears to be the better plan bearing in mind the large area involved and the presence of flintstones. It does however hinge on the availability of clay supplies locally.

Dependent as it is on regular rainfall the pond clearly requires some help in enabling it to retain some water, as it did in the past. Water lying at depths of less than 15 inches (381mm) of water presents a problem in itself and a greater depth is desirable environmentally.

Ann, Marjorie, Dick, John, Peter, Dave, Leo, Jack and Daren along with schoolchildren and their parents have all done much at the pond so far this year. The clearing of the dead growth, collection of rubbish and general tidying-up has proceeded well and a big effort to complete this phase was made during Environmental Week 91 (11th - 19th May).

During Environment Week children from Lydden Village School led by their teacher and assisted by some of their mothers, helped clear litter and weeds, and planted a large number of bluebells for future years. A weeping willow (*Salix alba tristis*) donated by The Dover Society as an Environment Week contribution to the rejuvenation of the pond, was planted by the Chairman in the presence of the children and with their ready assistance! Mrs Cross, Headteacher of Lydden School, said "I am pleased that the children have been involved with their village pond and have actually done something to help. It complements their school studies on the environment which were also centred on Environment Week this year".

Pond care sessions will continue to take place at intervals in the future when any help you can give will be most appreciated – the number to ring is (0304) 202 207.

JOHN OWEN

*Chairman Projects Committee. 27.6.91*



*Drawing by Hilary King*



above: Clearing the banks before planting the bluebells.

below left: The Chairman plants a willow tree . Right: 'Workers of the world unite'



## 190 *CLEANING THE POND AT LYDDEN*

by *Class I Lydden School*

On Monday, 13th May, Class I of Lydden Primary School went to clean out the village pond. We walked along Canterbury Road with four mums. As we arrived at the pond Mr and Mrs Owen came along. While Mrs Owen was planting the willow tree, Mr Owen was talking to all of us, telling us what what we were actually there for and what we had to do.

We had bluebells to plant and we tried to make an island in the middle of the pond. We are hopeful the water will collect in it.

A photographer came from the *Dover Express*: he took photographs of most of us, and they are now on display in school.

We think it is very important that Lydden Pond should be restored. It is part of our village history and could be made to look very attractive, especially if people *do not* throw their rubbish into it.

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Maybe they have adorned your walls for decades, yellowing or fading, with the backing paper splitting and disintegrating. I have two such pictures which for years have admonished me, fixing me with feelings of guilt from time to time, as I pass them on the staircase. Is it time to consider giving them a new lease of life?

EDITOR

## *A Paper Conservator writes about her work*

DEBORAH COLAM

### THE CARE OF WORKS OF ART ON PAPER

Do you have any old pictures, maps or stamps that you know are in need of care or conservation?

An examination of your artwork can reveal if it requires possible attention. If framed, carefully remove the backing. What colour is the back of the artwork? Is it yellow or brown? What colour is the front? Have the colours faded badly? Does it have vertical brown marks which correspond to splits in the backing material? Is it stuck down to a backing material? Are there signs of moisture-staining, mould or foxing? Is the paper brittle, torn or dirty? All these indicate serious deterioration which should be given attention.

Good quality paper can last hundreds of years if protected from harmful conditions. When work is exposed to strong light, extremes of humidity, atmospheric pollution, infestation, poor mounting and framing materials and bad handling it soon deteriorates. Poor quality paper is inherently unstable, containing such substances as iron and copper salts, lignin (the bonding material in cellulose), bleaches and many others, which react with each other and surrounding sources of acidity causing grave damage. The



following list of Do and Don'ts apply to works of art, maps, stamps, fabric, archival material and all forms of paper ephemera.

Don't over-handle items.

Do pick up from the edges, make sure weak items are well-supported and ideally use "researcher gloves".

Don't attempt to clean items using tacky or putty style cleaning products and certainly do not use bread as suggested in some spurious publications. All you will do is leave an oily residue on your item.

Do look for archival quality cleaning products and familiarise yourself with their correct application.

If in doubt – Don't risk it!

Don't attempt any water or chemical treatment to remove stains unless you have specialist knowledge to deal with any problems which may arise. Conservation is not straightforward and even a simple task can go wrong.

Don't use conventional pressure sensitive adhesive tapes e.g. sellotape or masking tape to repair work or in mounting. These soon degrade leaving stains and sticky residues which are virtually impossible to remove.

Don't store items within or adjacent to sources of acidity e.g. newsprint, non acid-free tissue, mailing envelopes, wooden drawers, glassine bags, P.V.C. or ordinary polyester products.

Don't hang or store objects near central heating radiators, where they are exposed to high fluctuations of temperature and humidity. Paper is safest in a range of 50% - 60% relative humidity at a temperature of 20 - 22°C

Do ensure your items are enclosed by good storage or framing to stabilise their surrounding climate.

Don't expose work unduly to strong light sources. Harmful ultra-violet is present in both daylight and artificial light. Spotlights especially should not be used as they produce additions to heat problems.

Do, if the pigments or paper are thought to be particularly vulnerable, consider using ultra-violet proof glass – the extra cost could be well justified.

The causes of damage to works of art on paper are many and by no means all have been covered above. It is, however, widely thought that up to 80% of damage has been caused as a direct result of poor framing methods. This point cannot be over-emphasised.

Don't have original quality artwork framed or mounted using standard quality framing or mounting techniques. Ordinary mounting techniques e.g. dry-mounting, spray or wet adhesives and conventional hinging tape can severely damage framed items. Acid migration, adhesive residue, staining, colour fading and structural decomposition will occur and may lead to irretrievable damage. Items can suffer financial loss immediately if treated in this manner.

If you seek the advice of a qualified Paper Conservator or framer with specialised

192 conservation knowledge, always specify your requirements, making certain that these are well understood and noted by the framer. In this day and age the information is freely available to the framer and as such there are no excuses for the ignorance of yesteryear. The additional cost of conservation standard framing should not be more than 15 - 20% greater than normal standard methods; except perhaps where ultra-violet proof glazing is used.

If in doubt you can contact your local museum, Public Records Office or the Conservation Unit at the Museums and Galleries Commission at

16 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AA

All these are able to provide details of qualified conservators in your area..

*Deborah Colam is the proprietor of Castle Fine Arts Studio (26 Castle Street), which was established in 1986 to incorporate a conservation workshop and a picture framing service. Deborah, who trained as a Paper Conservator at Camberwell School of Art and Crafts, London, has recently been lecturing on her subject at Dover Museum.*

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## Village Children's Views of Dover.

... I like Dover because of all the new things in it. I also like Etam and Tammy because they do fashions and I like things to do with fashion. I also like the White Cliffs Experience. I like the cinema and the gift shop and the playground.

EMMA WISE (9)

Dover is good because there are lots of shops.. There is a Sports centre and the Town Gaol and the White Cliffs Experience, the harbour and the beach. You can see Dover Castle. My Dad works on the ships. When you go up the cliffs you can see everything, ships, cars, all that sort of thing.

MARK LEWIS WILLIAMS (8)

I like Dover a bit but the best thing is the Sports Centre. The White Cliffs Experience is good. The best thing is the pirate ship and you can play on it and you watch a big tele and at the end you watch a wreck on the beach and there's characters.

JAMES LEWIS WILLIAMS (8)

In Dover I like the White Cliffs Experience. It's good because there's loads of knowledge. There was a good bit about the Germans. My best bit there is that sort of theatre bit where there was a seagull and his nephew Puffy and it told you all about the olden days.

ALISON HAWKINS (9)

EAST LANGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## DOES ANYONE KNOW?

What happened to the clock from the old school at Lydden (opposite the Hope Inn)? The clock disappeared when the school moved to its new site.

Anyone with any knowledge of the whereabouts of the clock, or any other artifacts from the old School, please contact Mrs Cross, the Headteacher of Lydden Primary School. (Tel. No. 0304 822887).

# Conviviality

193

## and Conundrums

### AT THE BAY MUSEUM, St MARGARET'S BAY

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The 42 members who met at the Bay Museum on Friday, 24th May, had a thoroughly enjoyable and convivial evening. We left about 10.30 pm feeling that we had actually conversed with people who previously had been just vaguely familiar faces, and that we had met a new set of friends. It was a venture most rewarding and entertaining and the background work which must have gone into the meticulous preparation evokes our very whole-hearted thanks to all concerned.

On arrival, May Jones gave us each a Bay Museum pen and a black or red name sticker. After a quick look around the Museum, which seemed a very small place for fun and games, the members with black labels were given beautifully printed booklets (no need to guess the printer) containing 50 questions and 5 picture questions; the red labels were each given two or three slips with numbered answers. So we didn't have to be at all clever! All one had to do was find a red label and say, 'Have you the answer to number 5?' (Who crossed the Channel in 1875 in an inflatable rubber suit propelled by a double-bladed paddle and with a canvas sail fixed to his left boot?) and eventually one tracked down the answer – Captain Boyton! A few of the questions were easy – 'Who wrote the novel *Dover Harbour*?' and some were guessable – 'on what date was Dover Hippodrome finally closed?' A few questions did not have the answers circulated, so that they could be used as a tie-break at the end. The whole idea was most ingenious, every answer well researched and every detail foreseen.

After this leisurely questioning and chat we each had a plate of goodies and glass/glasses of wine – how we all managed to sit comfortably was a near miracle! Then the red labels had their turn with a different set of questions. A panel (*All ex-school teachers!*) produced a remarkable turn of speed in marking the question papers. Everyone nearly won, but Budge Adams presented prizes to Black (Set A questions), 1 Pat Pennington, 2 Lillian Kay and Red (Set B questions), 1 Jeremy Cope, 2 Shirley Dowe.

Finally, our very warm thanks to many people. Regrettably, very few members responded to the request for 'Mystery Questions' earlier in the year. Joe Harman produced five interesting photos, (how could we have mistaken the entrance to the Oddfellows' Club in Pencester Road for the Salvation Army?) and Phil Kennedy the other five. Phil and Merrill produced most of the questions and spent an afternoon at the Museum checking the answers. All were typeset and printed into booklets by Budge, who spotted any errors or anomalies. Lin organised the social side as usual, but, most unfortunately, was ill and unable to be with us; Merrill Lilley, Iris and Steve Peters took over the refreshments on the Friday morning, giving the day to the preparation. During the evening Bruce Lilley and Steve Peters acted as barmen, Sheila and Jeremy Cope ran the raffle, and May Jones gave much appreciated help with the general organisation. Thank you all; but most particularly Phil, for having the idea and daring to try it out, and to Budge for his always good humoured, dependable and tireless backing to all the efforts of the Dover Society.

LILLIAN KAY



*Before and After: THE RESTORED TRAM SHELTER*

We are delighted to include in the Newsletter these two photographs, taken by John Owen, of the tram shelter at the junction of Folkestone Road and Elms Vale Road, before and after restoration. The Society supported the plea of residents in the Elms Vale district for the refurbishment of the shelter. Dover District Council employed the local specialist firm of Anthony Reed Designs to restore the shelter. The work was finished in June and took six weeks to complete.



# FINCHCOCKS

*Goudhurst, Kent*

Perhaps it was the strange name, or perhaps the poor June weather, or simply that the Dover Society members do not like long journeys by coach but, our excellent Social Secretary kept on worrying about the trip being 'undersubscribed'. Indeed there were only about 20 takers for what turned out to be a most memorable and enjoyable trip.

The journey to Finchcocks' estate was delightful. The driver meandered along the lesser roads and lanes of Kent letting us enjoy the pleasantly green, well framed countryside with its gentle hills and prosperous-looking valleys. We arrived at Finchcocks on time.

Mrs Burnett, the co-owner, met us and, after a welcome coffee break, gave us a brief, but informative, lecture on the Finchcocks family who had acquired the estate, built the country house, and given their name to the area. When the Burnetts took the building over it had been serving as a school, and after alterations, such as removing 12 washbasins from certain rooms, they turned it into an intriguing and entertaining pianoforte museum.

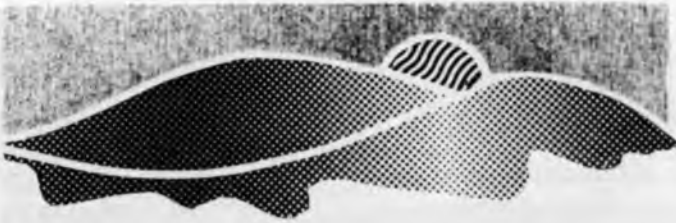
Entertaining indeed, Richard Burnett co-owner, curator, concert pianist and talented lecturer first explained, and then demonstrated upon various types of virginals, spinets, clavichords, chamber organ, musical boxes, British and continental pianos which had been built from the 17th century onwards. The designers sought after tone quality and quantity or volume as they strove to keep up with ever-growing audiences and, consequently, ever larger concert halls. Many ingenious devices were added to the keyboard to control the behaviour of the strings so that the tone colour could be altered. The outstanding item of the morning was a performance of Mozart's "Turkish Rondo" played upon a piano built about 1814 by Johann Fritz of Vienna. This involved a moderator to alter the tone colour, a bassoon—a strip of parchment pressed on the strings to give a rasping sound—and a padded beater. The latter was used to strike at the sound board from underneath, whilst at the same time three bells were struck and a strip of brass fell on the strings to create a cymbals clash. All these "additions" have to be worked by the pianist using knees or feet, but in the hands of an expert they produced a glorious clashing sound when used—rather reminiscent of the steam organs we used to hear at fairgrounds.

Thus passed a most informative and entertaining hour and we went on to lunch. The optimistic among us braved the June weather and picnicked in the gardens. After lunch we wandered around the garden for a while admiring both the planted sections and the modern "wilderness section" to allow native grasses, flowers and insects to survive. It was rather cool, however, and the party sought the warmth of the coach. We had thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and willingly returned an hour earlier than planned.

On the way home our General Secretary thanked Lyn for arranging such an interesting expedition—and also the coach driver for the selection of the route. Our expert Social Secretary need not have worried about being "undersubscribed" though. On the way home Jeremy and Sheila Cope—our raffle experts—produced their little yellow bag, organised a raffle, and this, added to the fares, covered all expenses and left the Dover Society about £8.00 to the good.

Why all this talk about money? Well, if you ask the Treasurer to write about a trip what else do you expect?

*K. W. BERRY*



## WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PROJECT



### THE ENVIRONMENT and the NATIONAL CURRICULUM

One of the aims of the White Cliffs Countryside Project is to encourage local people of all ages to get involved with the Project, to find out more and help to care for their local environment. Another is to explain about the countryside, and its historical, wildlife and geological attractions, using a wide variety of means, including leaflets, outdoor information panels, viewpoints, guided walks and farm trails.

It is easy to see the connection between the Project's aims and the needs of schools and the demands of the National Curriculum.

We have been working closely with a number of primary and secondary schools in the Project area, developing ideas with teaching staff that both fulfil educational needs and also get across the message about the importance of the ancient chalk grassland, and the need for grazing management.

The Environment is one of the National Curriculum themes for cross-curricular studies. A wide range of intellectual and practical skills can be learnt in a new and interesting way. This applies to all subjects taught in schools from Maths, Craft, Biology, and Sciences to History, Geography, English and other languages.

The WCCP has been invited to a number of local schools to give illustrated talks about the project and the wildlife of the local countryside. A guided walk on one of our sites then usually follows. Some schools take the opportunity to do field work and or practical conservation work to help care for the countryside.

This year two local schools (Astor and Channel High School) have based an Activity Week around the WCCP and the local environment – both the countryside and the historical environment.

During a week in June, all of Year 7 at Astor School took part in a wide range of activities. The pupils visited a different site each morning and went back to school to do follow up studies in the afternoon.

The Western Height and Cowgate Cemetery were main sites for a host of educational activities. These included an Ecological Orienteering course where pupils had to find coordinate points and then answer questions relating to something next to them. The questions were mainly about the plants and basic maths. The pupils only had an hour

and a quarter to complete the course. Even so, this energetic activity seemed very popular with the children. 197

There was a History Trail and associated work sheets that looked more closely at the Grand Shaft, St. Martin's Battery, the North Entrance and the Drop Redoubt. The Drama teacher had groups doing interesting echos and rhythm experiments in the Grand Shaft. Some good examples of creative writing came from experiencing the steep, triple spiral staircase.

Cowgate Cemetery is a wonderful place to base school activities. The gravestones are full of interesting information about the people buried there. Information gathering gives an insight into Dover's social history and, of course, much of the data can be represented using mathematical techniques. A quiz was devised to get the pupils exploring and reading the gravestones. The visit to Cowgate resulted in some imaginative stories and poems.



Whinless Down, behind Elms Vale recreation ground, was the site for alerting the senses to nature. 'Earth Walks' - devised to experience how other animals see the world, homing in on the colours of the downland, making smelly cocktails and tree hugging were all done to get a feel for nature. The pupils also carried out tree surveys and bug hunts.

The enthusiasm and work that resulted from the week of activities was excellent and is a credit to both the hard work of Astor staff and enthusiastic pupils. From an ecologist's point of view it was great to see everyone being part of nature that week.

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## WELCOME TO ASTOR SCHOOL

*- our first Schools Member of the Society*

Much of the work referred to in Melanie Wrigley's article was done with twelve-year-olds from Astor School. As Astor has joined the Society as a Schools member we are delighted to include three representative pieces of children's work on the White Cliffs Project with Melanie. These include the outings to Whinless Down, the Western Heights and Cowgate Cemetery.

### WHINLESS DOWN

Today we went to Whinless Down for an earth walk with Melanie Wrigley and also a "Bug Hunt". It was very interesting. The most interesting part was when Melanie gave out some plastic cups and then she told us that we were going to collect plants to make a cocktail. All the plants collected made a nice or horrible smell. My cocktail smelt like mint. I called it "Mint Surprise". I thought Amanda's was the best smell. Then Melanie gave us some mirrors and we pretended to be following animals:- mice, rabbits and I forget the last one.

198 For the next tour we walked a little bit more and she gave us three colours:- pink, green, blue. And we had to try and match the colours with the plants and flowers. I completed the task. We saw some of the following plants:- salad burnet, hawthorn, blackthorn, sloes, gorse, rockrose, dog rose and milk wort. the milk wort is a medicinal plant used for people in the olden days.

GERALDINE



### WESTERN HEIGHTS

Today we walked up from school to the Western Heights. First we went to the Grand Shaft. This is a shaft that was made during 1806 and 1809, to allow a quick response by the troops stationed on the Heights to an attack on the harbour. With Napoleon's successful armies threatening to attack at any time this gave quick access which was very important.

Next we went to St. Martin's Battery which is situated on high ground overlooking the Grand Shaft. It was not only used in Napoleonic times but also in World Wars One and Two.

Thirdly we went to the North Entrance where we completed a work sheet and finally we went to the Caponiers area, which was referred to as a killing ground. I enjoyed my trip to the Western Heights very much.

RACHEL

### COWGATE CEMETERY *THE GRAVEYARD*

As we climbed up the towering hill, there came an opening in the trees. We stepped over the brambles that were like sharp-toothed grass snakes and into a clearing, a dense patch of dead grass rather like a piece of disused carpet on top of a skip.



The grave stones were barely readable and you could only just see the inscriptions carved elaborately onto the stone or marble, whichever it was.

*It read:*

James Smith

Aged 2 years old

Born 18th of September 1845

Died 27th of December 1847

LISA



# THE FOUR LEOPARDS' FACES

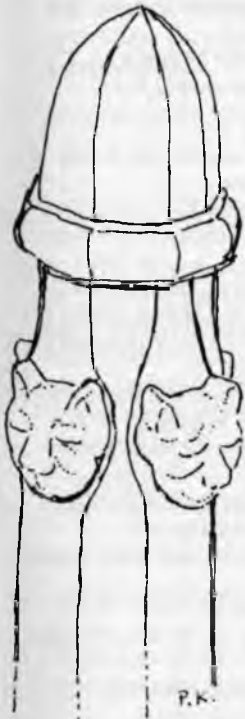


*J. G. HARMAN*

Have you ever been stopped in your tracks by the leopards? I am sure some of us made contact with them during the black-out, as these are the bollards placed on footpaths to prevent vehicles taking short cuts. You may have seen the recently re-furbished one at the corner of Castle Street and Eastbrook Place.

Recent discussions about a Dover Coat of Arms led me to do some research. I knew that the Dover Badge or Device appeared in the 1860's, just after the appointment of a new Town Clerk. I started to decipher some of the correspondence in the Town Clerk's Letter Book regarding the Arms of Dover. It was at about this period that the Stone Hall, as we know it, was being restored, partly by public subscription. It was decided to put shields of the Lords Warden around the walls. I have been able to see what appears to be the original design of these shields in a frame supplied by a Mr Edward Sclater who was in business in the 1860's. Amongst the shields was one with the four leopards' faces which had been covered over, and was claimed by "The Free Barons of the Town and Port of Dover", otherwise the Freemen including my ancestors.

We must now go back to St. Martin's Priory (now the site of Dover College). The Prior had his own Coat of Arms which was the four leopards' faces, and this has now been included in the Dover College grant of Arms. The Priory was dissolved in 1535, and that should have meant the disappearance of these Arms but somehow they survived. The Dover Corporation bought the Maison Dieu in 1834 and converted part of it into a prison. A wall was built between our present library and the Maison Dieu, and this provided an exercise yard for the prisoners. At the point where we now have the three cannons there was a doorway which had a shield over it showing the four leopards' faces and this survived until about 1894. We know that up to 1860 the Town Clerk had been using a lever seal with the leopards' faces.



Bollard at west junction  
of Castle St. & Eastbrook  
Place.

200 In a letter dated 1st October 1860 the Town Clerk had stated that the Corporation had lapsed into the use of the Arms of the Priory. He also asked the College of Arms to produce a device including St. Martin and the Cinque Ports ship, and stated that he would defray the expenses. Public Arms, by A. C. Fox Davies, published in 1894, shows a shield with the four leopards' faces for Dover. The *Dover Express* from its first edition in 1858 had the leopards at the top of its front page until a change of ownership in 1873.

Members might be prepared to make a list of bollards still in existence. They were cast by a local ironfounder, J. Wright.

*The picture of the Leopards' Heads is from the book of Public Arms, A. C. Fox Davies, 1894*

## CROSSWORD No. 3

### CLUES - ACROSS

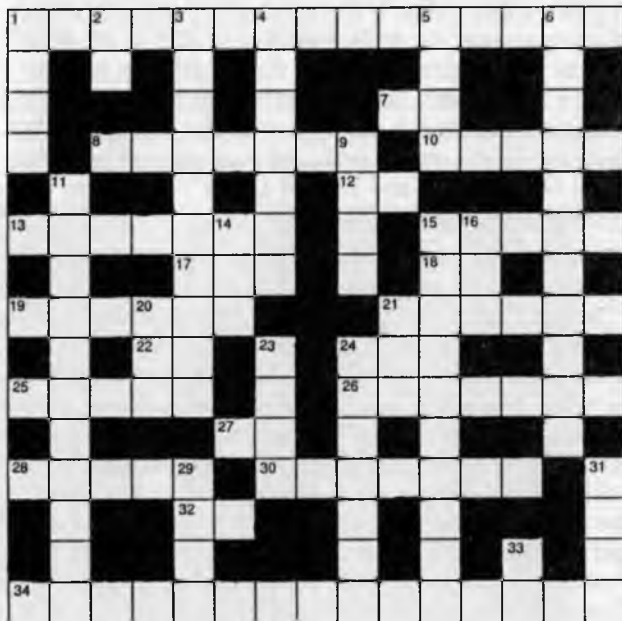
1. Intricate flight from Snargate Street (6,9)
7. Regarding (abbr.) (2)
8. Need we be this in 1993? (7)
10. Measure sea depth (5)
12. Motoring organisation (1,1)
13. Disturbance of the first Russian currency (7)
15. Find 21 here (5)
17. Lend one to Brutus (3)
18. The Spanish (2)
19. Romans carried these fruit in a ship (6)
21. Drives cattle (6)

22. To go Spanish (2)
24. Happen to lose a backward firm for a dog (3)
25. Transport to the Continent (5)
26. Look back — — (2,5)
27. Greek letter useful in Maths. (2)
28. Put stray 21 here (5)
30. Comes between us and the French (7)
32. Decoration (1,1)
34. Foundations of this old Norman church are now uncovered (2,6,2,5)

### DOWN

1. Plant used for the family or the shoe
2. That is (1,1)
3. Plant 1 in this awful fruit (5,5)
4. Elms Vale renovation (7)
5. Ways the French regrets (4)
6. Bright niche demolished (5,5)
9. Unusual (4)
11. Dover's sunken fortress (4,7)
14. Before Vegas (3)
15. Solution for some jobless (10)
16. Popular local drink? (3)
20. Sufllationary need
21. Centre of 'our' solar system (3)
23. Smart (4)
24. Edifice on Western Heights (7)
29. Miserable river? (4)
31. On the beach (4)
33. Academic mother (1,1)

*The solution to crossword No. 2 is on page 202*



# Membership News

201

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

Membership at 31st August 1991: 318

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to new members. We passed the 300 mark in April and have recruited 44 new members this year.

## RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

A plea to all members. *Please* renew annual subscriptions *as soon as possible* after 1st April each year. If you do not pay your subscription at the A.G.M., please send your cheque by post soon afterwards. We need to know that we have a current working membership. This year 80 members had not paid their subscriptions by mid-July and a reminder was sent to them with the deadline for renewal set at 31st August. This was to ensure that the names of members who decided not to re-join were removed from the mailing list before the September *Newsletter* was distributed. Members will appreciate that three *Newsletters* (. priced at £1 each) constitute a large proportion of a subscription.

*So please help by returning your subscription early next year.*

## “FIVE-YEAR” MEMBERS.

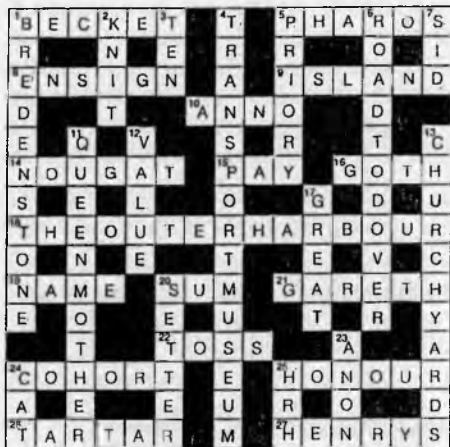
In 1988-89 some of the first members of the Society paid £10 for a five-year membership (ie. £2 per year). The five-year membership option is now discontinued and subscriptions have been increased to £4 per year. Realising this, some five-year members have voluntarily made a further payment. Many thanks to these members. If you have a five-year membership and would like to boost the Society's funds in the same way, your help would be greatly appreciated. There is no obligation to pay anything at all and any amount you choose to contribute will be very acceptable. (Example, 1 year £2, 2 years £4), depending on the date you joined. Cheques from five-year members will be gratefully received and may be paid *direct to the Treasurer, Ken Berry.*

## NEW MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

My thanks to all members for their help in the last two years. Please note that from 1st September the new Membership Secretary will be

Mrs Sheila Cope, 53 Park Avenue, Dover, CT16 1HD

MERRIL HILLEY, *Membership Secretary*



## Solution to Crossword No 2

*Yes, we do!*

- **PERSONAL INSURANCE**  
Motor, Household, Buildings and Contents, Personal Accident and Sickness, Horse and Rider, Small Pleasure Craft, Travel and Continental Breakdown.
- **COMMERCIAL INSURANCE**  
Shops and Offices, Business and Industrial Combined, Liability Insurance, Goods in Transit, Motor Trade, Commercial Motor, Motor Fleets, Haulage Contracts.
- **LIFE ASSURANCE & PROTECTION**  
Joint Life Schemes, Family Protection, Endowment and Savings Plans, Inheritance Tax, School Fees, Permanent Health.
- **PENSIONS**  
Self Employed, Personal Pensions, Executive Schemes, Group Schemes.
- **MORTGAGES**  
Personal, Commercial, Re-mortgages, Funds always available subject to status.  
(Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or loan secured on it).
- **INVESTMENT**  
Investment Bonds, Annuities, Guaranteed Income & Growth Bonds, Retirement Income Plans, Personal Equity Plans, Unit Trusts and Savings Plans.

# PHAROS

ASSOCIATED GROUP OF COMPANIES

Pharos House  
20 London Road  
Dover  
Tel: (0304) 215522

Pharos House  
1-3 Risborough Lane  
Cheriton, Folkestone  
Tel: (0303) 275776

Pharos House  
13 Park Street  
Deal  
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Registered Insurance Brokers & Independent Financial Advisers  
Remember Independent Advice is Best Advice



## 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.

## George Lock

**Tailors - Uniforms - School Outfitters**

60 & 61 Biggin St, Dover, Kent CT16 1DD  
Telephone: (0304) 206337

## ROSES

**TEAS - COFFEES  
CRAFTS**

St. Margarets-at-Cliffe  
Telephone (0304) 852126



## *Bonnies*

(P & R JANES)

18, Bartholomew St, Dover, Kent, CT16 2LH  
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**RE-UPHOLSTERY \* ANTIQUES**  
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## **PRIORY FRAMING**

A. J. Mole

**TEL: (0304) 204107**

## **TROSLEY EQUIPMENT**

**PLASTIC VACUUM  
FORMING**

**0304 211411**

SUPPORTING THE DOVER SOCIETY

## ***RIGDEN NEWS***

**12 Worthington Street  
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**TOBACCO & GROCERY**

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## **THE DROVEWAY PHARMACY**

(ANDREW BEGGS, M.P.S.)

**ST. MARGARET'S BAY  
DOVER, KENT.  
AND**

**ST. MARGARETS BAY POST OFFICE**

**TELEPHONE: DOVER 852696**

Dover is a small town on the sea but it has great docks. Ferries go to France and Belgium. Here are such big docks because Dover is the nearest town to France.

... Dover is known for its history because there landed the first Romans in Great Britain.

... The landmark of Dover is Dover Castle, a big castle on the top of a hill ...

... Dover Castle is in good repair. It's very lovely. Every night you see it because it stands on one cliff and it's always lit ...

Every year a lot of foreigners come to South Kent College in Dover who want to learn English ...

In Dover there are few shops ...

... The most important square is the Market Square. There are always many tourists and English teenagers. It's a meeting place

for young and old ... There is a pedestrian way from the Market Square ....

For the people and children of Dover there are parks, playgrounds and a big Sports Centre where you can swim, play table tennis, squash and many other sports.

.... The beach at Dover is clean and you can go swimming in the English Channel but there are so many stones ....

.... the water is dirty ....

.... There is Dover Water Sports Centre where you can borrow surfboards canoes and sailing boats ....

Dover has built the White Cliffs Experience museum. There you can see the whole history about the white cliffs ....

.... I think Dover is very interesting ....

.... Dover is small but interesting and a nice town.

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## The Golden Triangle: Castle Street to the Sea

PART 3

A. F. (Budge) Adams

I must apologise for a slightly misleading statement in the last issue of the *Newsletter*. Though the shop lately occupied by 'The Bench Street Newsagent' has the bigger return frontage in Townwall Street it is, in fact, No. 12 Bench Street. Court & Co., the Wine Merchants who were the first occupants had by 1905 left the premises and installed in their place were Fletcher's the butchers and, on the first floor, Neville Jennings, a hair-dresser. 12 Bench Street over the years, has had many occupants

but they are of no concern to this particular part of the story of the Golden Triangle.

Until the rebuilding of Townwall Street the "The Wine Lodge", which stood on the site of the present "Brittania", was very typical of a good class 'pub' in those parts in the south and south-east that also had an annual influx of visitors. It is interesting to note that the public house known in 1899 as "The Chandos" was the year previously called "The Liverpool Arms" but, unusually, there was no simultaneous change of occupying publican. Before the building of the National Harbour, Dover was an accepted and well-thought-of watering place and in fact the houses on Marine Parade were built as lodging houses for the numerous visitors. Do not be misled by the term



Townwall Street 1938  
(premises at left now Ristorante al Porto)

'lodging houses'— in the last century the words had a connotation that differed from today's. The houses provided accommodation for wealthy people from London and beyond who would arrive as complete family units with their maid- and man-servants, the nurse-maid for the children, and their brougham for Sir and Madam and would occupy a whole house and stay for a month or more. The town profited by their presence, and the bigger shops reflected the expansive life style of their seasonal customers.

North-eastward, next to Bottle the Chemist in 1896 was a poulterer's and greengrocer's shop run by a Mrs Divers and next to that was the Granville Hotel – not a hotel in the modern sense, just a pub. At the side of the Granville Hotel was one of the original fire lanes, known as St. James's Passage and on the other side of the lane, a Mrs Licence kept a stylish lodging house at No. 35, Barrington

House. In 1898 the extensive ground floor was altered to make several business premises, one of which was occupied by the Granville Dairy and another by Emery Bros, Plumbers and Painters. By 1905, or perhaps a little earlier, the dairy was no more and Mr C. A. Wilde, father of one of our most respected lady members, had opened the Granville Cigar Stores. Mr Wilde remained in occupation as a newsagent and tobacconist until at least 1940 but by the early 1930's Emery Bros. had departed and in their place was installed Mr Pittock, a butcher, Mr Fish a greengrocer and a Mr McHardy who ran a Tea Room. With the exception of Mr McHardy all were still in occupation until the fateful days of 1940

Two houses further on lived a man with the unusual name of Umfreville and next door to him was John Part, a hairdresser. Then came Townwall Passage, another ancient fire lane, and the "Sussex Arms". One or two smaller properties came next and then the yard and back entrance to the Gordon Boys' Orphanage. Still north-eastwards, within a further ten metres, came Fox Passage now subsumed into the extended Russell Street and, until the rebuilding after war damage, marking the end of Townwall Street.

Clarence Street, which could be said to have been a continuation of Townwall Street was offset to the left by three or four metres and thus the side face of the first building on the right in that street faced

C. A. Wilde's shop in Barrington House  
almost exactly on site of present Light of India





Townwall Street after bombing in 1940

directly into Townwall Street. It was occupied by G. J. Buckland & Son who were undertakers and carpenters. We children would stand at the wide-open doorway sniffing the smell of oak shavings and watching coffins being constructed. When we were very young Mr Buckland, Snr. would give us offcut sticks with which to propel our wooden hoops and, when we were a little older, the longer sticks we used when playing 'tip-cat'. A five or six inch piece of wood about 1sq. inch in section and pointed at each end lay on the ground before us. If we were right-handed we would tap the left-hand pointed bit with Mr Buckland's stick and the 'cat' would leap into the air. One then sharply moved the stick to the right ready to smite the falling 'cat' with a mighty whack, the objective being to drive the 'cat' as far along the road as possible. Unfortunately

The 'Robin Hood', 1930



mis-directed contact was inclined to result in a broken window and then we were in deep trouble from which we could only be extricated by our long-suffering parents who paid for the damage.

The seaward side of Townwall Street from its junction with Clarence Street was, for 45 metres or so, a rather untidy collection of stores and workshops built on each side of a long bill-poster's hoarding. The hoarding marked the site of an intended 19th century continuation of Russell Street via Liverpool Street and Guilford Lawn to Marine Parade and though it originally concealed an

undeveloped site the area was utilised during the 1914-18 war when a Y.M.C.A. recreation room was built on it, with access from Liverpool Street. The hoarding remained and the Y.M.C.A. continued in occupation until the early days of the last war when the building was converted to a British Restaurant. It was severely damaged, almost destroyed, about the time of the bombing of the Grand Hotel and the restaurant moved to St. Mary's Parish Hall in Dieu Stone Lane.

The occupants of these stores and workshops in Townwall Street changed fairly frequently and could at any one time have been coal and log merchants, second-hand clothes dealers, shoe repairers and indeed any enterprise that needed temporary accommodation. In or about 1935 the embryo Ely's Garage was there.

A little further westward was, in the first 25 years of this century, the large livery stables and stores of Eastes, the corn-chandlers who were also in business in Castle Street and farmed at Guston. My most vivid picture of the place is of huge shire horses being exercised and the smell of the fodder and hot dung. But when motor cars and motor lorries came into use and the horse had declined as a power



source the building was taken over by a Mr R. D. Carter who changed the livery stables into his 'Grand Garage'. Continuing westward there were two tea-rooms separated by a general shop and a private house and then at the corner of Wellesley Road and opposite Mr Wilde's shop was a rather superior second-hand shop that could very nearly be rated as an antique dealer's establishment.

On the other side of Wellesley Road was No. 8, 'The Round House,' where from about 1895 to some time after the end of the first world war had lived the Rev'd. T. Shipdem Frampton. In about 1933 it housed the Dover Central Club, a non-political affair and open to all. At this point Townwall Street was in fact a bridge over the Dour though there was no obvious evidence to show this. But between 'The Round House' and Mr Cuff's shop, a length of tall brick wall surmounted by a line of York stone slabs. This wall was an upward extension of the bridge's parapet wall beyond which the river ran open to the sky to the culverts under New Bridge. There was an access door in this wall with a flight of stone steps leading down to water level which was used by Corporation workmen when cleaning out the river.

The river Dour in flood - St. James's Lane. (The multi-storey car park now replaces the brewery building on left. The boy in the jersey is the writer.)



Squeezed between the end of the wall, the river and No. 7, and thus with a triangular floor-plan, No. 7a was, since about 1915 and until the outbreak of the last war, a lock-up stationer's shop run by Mr T. H. Cuff who had previously been connected with, and possibly ran, the stationer's shop in what later became the Hotel de France. Though Mr Cuff used it for a much longer period this particular shop has gone down in history as Mr Vickery's war-time Oyster Shop even though its span of use as such was fractional compared with the time it was a stationer's. After Mr Vickery closed down in 1949 or '50 it was used as a tobacconist's until demolition preceding the formation of the new Townwall Street.

Nos. 7 & 6 were unusual in that they were built with their backs to the street. Their frontages enjoyed an extensive view of the bay which they lost when Camden Crescent was built in 1840. In 1879 when my father came to Dover he worked for nine years in No. 6 which was then the premises of Mr. R. Hynes, a bookbinder. Next door, No. 5, was the shop and workshops of F. C. Bartholomew, my maternal grandfather. He was a cabinet maker and upholsterer and when my

widowed grandmother died in the early 1920's the premises were sold to Hart & Co. who there opened their china and glass warehouse.

At No. 4 in 1920 was A. W. Pinto, a qualified electrical engineer and I remember the very bulky pieces of equipment he stocked, their size largely conditioned by the needs of a 100 volt supply. Dover, incidentally, was one of the last towns to change over to 230 volts. No. 3

208 housed a long succession of photographer's from the last years of the 19th century until Ray Warner left it and moved over to a purpose-built shop on the other side of the street when Townwall Street became the A.20 – the place where most readers will remember him. The occupiers were, in succession, W. H. Broad, pre-1897 to 1914 or thereabouts, E. V. Bowles to sometime in the 20's, and the notable Miss Dorothy Sherwood until 1938 when she was joined, in the same premises, by Lambert Weston & Sons with, I hope I recall correctly, Ray Warner as manager and subsequently proprietor. Beyond the photographer's shop in 1900 was Farrier & Toms, very fashionable costumiers, but by 1905 the double-fronted shop was shared with Adams Bros. (no relation) who were cutlers. Just prior to the '14-'18 war it became an equally fashionable hairdressers and so continued under changing occupiers until 1949 or '50.

No 1 has, perhaps, a greater claim to fame. From about 1895 until the middle 1920's it housed the dairymen's business of E. W. Farley, later to be amalgamated with A. W. Woodhams, another dairyman, of 41 Castle Street. Mr Farley was Mayor of the town throughout the whole of the 1914-18 war and was indefatigable in caring for the interests of all the townspeople. He was instrumental in bringing about the lighting and extension of many of the caves used as air-raid shelters and at the end of the war he was knighted and became Sir Edwin - the only name we who were young at the time used for him.

The premises at the junction of Townwall Street and New Bridge had an entrance on the

corner as did the Bench Street Newsagents opposite, and though there was a similar extensive frontage in Townwall Street it was, in fact, No. 1 New Bridge. From earlier than 1895 until demolition in 1852 the premises housed an unbroken succession of chemists, the most notable of which were Harcombe Cuff and Edwin Craig who, between them, covered the period from 1905 until sometime during the last war.

Almost all trace of Townwall Street disappeared during the construction of the A20 and all that remains is the group of restaurants at the end next to Bench Street where the frontages, with the exception of the ground floors, are original and untouched. The lay-by outside these premises almost exactly defines the width of the old street and the frontages of the buildings on the seaward side were, again almost exactly, where now is the double yellow line on the inshore side of the east-bound carriage-way.

*The final instalment will appear in the next issue.*

The Gateway flats under construction, before the re-making of Townwall Street.

The bakery in Woolcomber Street, approximately at the corner of the Sports Centre main building, and Henley's filling station at the junction of Woolcomber Street and the new Townwall Street are centre and right in foreground.



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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: Sheila Cope, 53 Park Avenue, Dover CT16 1HD

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.

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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.

# PROGRAMME

- 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.
- SEPTEMBER 21  
Saturday 7.30  
KENT CONCERT ORCHESTRA  
Dover Town Hall
- 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 14  
Saturday 7.30  
Members and guests  
CHRISTMAS FEAST  
Dover College Refectory
- JANUARY 13  
Monday 7.30  
Members and guests  
FLOWERS  
Speaker: Melanie Wrigley  
Dover Harbour Board Hall, Details in January *Newsletter*
- FEBRUARY 24  
Monday 7.30  
Members and guests  
CONUNDRUMS AND CONVIVIALITY  
Dover Museum  
Details in January Newsletter
- APRIL 13  
Monday 7.30  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
St Mary's Parish Centre, Cannon Street. Details later
- MAY 23  
Saturday  
FESTIVAL TRIP  
Choice of Venues yet to be decided
- JUNE 20  
TRIP TO HISTORIC DOCKYARD, CHATHAM  
Details later



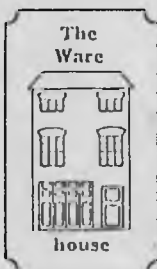
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