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Newsletter

No 17

August 1993

Festival of Dover 1993



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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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A. F. Adams, Mrs Silvia Corral, The Rt. Hon. The Lord Ennals,
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Miss Philomena Kennedy, Peter Marsh, The Rt. Hon. The Lord Rees,
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and Ken Wraight, with Mike McFarlane and Paul Youden as Advisory Members

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EDITORIAL

As the Dover Society has reached its fifth anniversary, it seems appropriate to look back at five years of achievements and commemorate some of them by reminding members of the many successful projects undertaken by the Society in that time. Many of them are recalled in the centre pages, by the photographs supplied by John Owen, Chairman of the Projects Sub-Committee, who has been the guiding force behind the work. The latest project to be completed is the restoration of the leopard's head bollards which is described in a separate article.

Dover, it seems, now stands at a watershed in its development as a tourist town. From here we can only go forward on the tide of sweeping changes. By the date of publication of the next Newsletter, the A20 should be finished (the promised date is now October!!); IMPACT will be established in Dover (office in Castle Street due to open early in August) and town re-generation can then proceed apace. After two years of road construction chaos, the prospect of a completed highway on our doorstep is breathtakingly intoxicating. It is difficult to envisage the reality, when hopes have been raised and dashed so many times and the observation of the slow progress of gangs of itinerant workmen along the A20 route does not encourage optimism. However, as one of our committee members observed, in six months time it will all be 'history' and the town will be able to embark upon its re-development programme in earnest.

Since the discussion at the Members' Meeting in March reported in this issue, along with a list of members' suggestions, Dover Society members will follow with interest the arrival of IMPACT and its first projects in the town.

In this issue are reports of the AGM in April, the Festival trip to Hastings and Battle in May, the tour of Dover College in June and the trip to Grove Ferry in July. As in 1992, a large section of the Newsletter has been devoted to reports and reviews of the Dover Festival, from now on, it is hoped, an annual event in the town.

Our next trip is to Boulogne in September. A booking form is enclosed with this Newsletter. Please return this as soon as possible to Joan Liggett, as early confirmation of numbers is crucial. The Society will meet Boulogne Accueil, as it did the Calais Accueil two years ago, for a mayoral reception and tour of the old town, before going on to the Nausicaa Marine Exhibition for the afternoon.

The October meeting will be on the controversial subject of the future of local government and should attract a large audience. Members will receive an Autumn Newsflash with details and application forms for the last two meetings of 1993, Conundrums and Conviviality at Dover Museum and the Christmas Feast at Dover College.

Sometimes members ask for more information about the Society's involvement in local planning. Lawrence Gage, Chairman of the Planning Sub-Committee, has itemised all the current planning issues in his report in this issue. Members are invited to write to the Editor, the Secretary or the Chairman of the Planning Sub-Committee if they have any queries or suggestions. Letters are always welcome. In fact, as far as the Newsletter is concerned, there are, on this occasion, sufficient letters to make a Letters Section, something which could, and should, constitute a regular feature. It is hoped that more members will feel encouraged to pick up pens and send in letters. With over 400 members it is one more way of keeping in touch with our membership.

The Members' Meeting

MERRIL LILLEY

THE MEMBERS' MEETING, held at St. Mary's Parish Centre on 22nd March, was divided into two sessions.

Before the interval members watched slides of old Dover, presented by Budge Adams, who was introduced by the Chairman as the "grand old man of Dover". Budge, who holds a collection of almost two thousand slides on old Dover, on this occasion chose for his subject the bridges over the River Dour, but, inevitably, many of the pictures evoked memories of the area and led to asides on past events, always an intriguing feature of any such presentation.

During the interval there was time to chat, drink wine or orange juice, buy raffle tickets from Jeremy and Sheila and welcome Julian Owen of IMPACT and three members of his team, Linda Ware, Alan Cox and Sam Thomas.

After the interval the members divided into six groups, led by Leo Wright, John Owen, Philomena Kennedy, Terry Sutton, Lawrence Gage and myself. Each group worked from a discussion paper listing ideas already submitted by members of the Dover Society. The four visitors from IMPACT moved from group to group, listening to suggestions and answering questions. The half-hour allocated for this exercise ran into forty minutes and the time allowed for feed-back proved quite inadequate in view of the flood of ideas and suggestions from the participants.

Finally the Chairman closed the meeting well after the expected finishing time of 10 o'clock, announcing that he considered the evening had been a profitable and successful one.

The following list is an attempt to collate all the ideas and suggestions formulated by the groups at this meeting. There was so much to include that I apologise to members if any items have been left out. If any members wish to add to or enlarge upon any of the items included here, please write to the Editor. Your letters will be included in the next issue of the Newsletter.

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND IMPACT MONEY IN DOVER?

Some suggestions from members

PRIORY STATION

Improve façade, entrance area and taxi rank. Landscape bank adjacent to Folkestone Road. Improve lighting. Make approach more attractive. Travel and information centre should be a focal point.

RIVERSIDE WALK

Improvements in line with original Dover Society recommendations. Special mention of improved lighting and ramp to replace steps. Areas which need attention and regular tidying – near new B&Q at Charlton, the old B&Q at Castle Street/Stembrook and near South Kent College.

60 OLD DEAL ROAD/CASTLE HILL ROAD/CASTLE STREET

Some buildings in need of attention, especially on west side near old Conservative Club. Signposts for pedestrians to Castle. Footpath and steps to Castle could be made more attractive. Entrances to Victoria Park and Victoria Park Mews need tidying and face-lift, near Castle environs.

ALLEYWAYS IN THE TOWN

Improve these as IMPACT did in Ramsgate examples. Flying Horse Lane, New Street, old bomb site near Walters' shoe shop area; leading to and around the Painted House; Fishmongers' Lane – a crucial pathway to the seafront.

PAINTED HOUSE

Improve entrance and façade, possibly re-paint in terra-cotta (Philomena's suggestion). Ideally link with White Cliffs Experience. Open up lawns on occasion to the public.

BENCH STREET/TOWNWALL STREET

End of Bench Street, shops in Townwall Street and entrance to the new underpass – key area for attention.

IN THE TOWN /BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDS

Renovation and use of upper storeys of shops, use of Living Over the Shop schemes; Upper storeys in terrace opposite Town Hall in particular need attention, from Effingham Crescent to Priory Hill. Restore to former elegance. Co-op site. Royal Victoria Hospital site.

(June: Work has now begun on the R.V.H.)

Russell Street Car Park needs major face-lift and improved signposting. Multi-storey car park here not wanted or needed. Gardens, planting flower-beds, trees, seats, suggested. Improve existing multi-storey and make attractive. Improvements of area bounded by Woolcomber Street and St. James's Street. Bus station – could this be re-located?

Area on frontage of the Unitarian Church near Snargate Street roundabout. Tidy-up, wall and footpath, possibly planting would soften look of retaining wall.

White Cliffs Experience. Open lawns to public (as above) Signposting needed from York Street. Future years – eventual demolition of post-war buildings on west side of Market Square.

SNARGATE STREET

Improvements to shops and buildings all along the route of the new A20. Entrance to the Grand Shaft. Make this GRAND!! Completely re-design to make the entrance attractive and impressive, as a contrast to surrounding area. Should be high-lighted. Information boards here. Various suggestions, gardens, an impressive gate, paved pathway, restore in period style.

Build bridge across Snargate Street to the new Docks development area, glass top suggested.

Display Hippodrome plaque in appropriate location.

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WESTERN DOCKS DEVELOPMENT

Generally welcomed by most members who look forward to the changes. Marina extension very good. Superstore – some concern about design and planning, Crucial development for the tourist future of Dover. IMPACT to work with Dover Harbour Board

SEA FRONT and ADJACENT AREAS

Suggestions:

Emphasis on flower beds all along the seafront to produce impressive and elegant gardens.

Landscaping of Marine Court garden. Query? Could this be opened up?

Landscaping of area along roadside from Leisure Centre to East Cliff.

Tidying of Moat Bulwark. "History" board there.

East Cliff and Athol Terrace – attention to pavements and footpaths. Could these be paved in line with new A20 pavements? Some bollards and design similar to Castle Street.

Signposts to the pedestrian cliff walk.

Woolcomber Street – garage forecourts and corner area at junction with Townwall Street – flower beds, painting, seats, etc.

Signposts for pedestrians to Castle.

Western end of promenade – attention to all approaches to the sea from the town and from the Western Docks development area to make this feel like a seaside town. Maintain sea-front seats, particularly those 'In Memoriam' as of old.

GENERAL

As well as larger schemes, some already planned by IMPACT, it was felt that Dover has a lot of attractive places, buildings, parks and that these could be improved by general cleaning, tidying, paving, landscaping, etc. to make the most of the existing good features of the town. ◇

Membership News

Individual Membership: £4.00 p.a. (1st April – 31st March)

Joint membership: Two members, same address, one copy *Newsletter*: £6.00 p.a.

Current membership 406.

Our total membership is now an encouraging 406 but we lose about twenty members each year – not from carelessness but through natural causes. Please use whatever means you can to encourage new members.

Unfortunately, some old friends have not yet paid up for 1993/94. They will be hearing from me but I would be most grateful to hear from them first!

SHEILA COPE, *Membership Secretary*

The Society's A.G.M. 1993

SYBIL STANDING

AFTER WELCOMING THE NEW PRESIDENT, Brigadier Maurice Atherton, Mrs Atherton and other dignitaries, the Chairman asked everyone to stand in tribute to the late Countess of Guilford, the Society's first President.

The Minutes of the Fourth Annual General Meeting being then read and adopted, the Chairman began his report in ebullient mood, saying that the AGM. was the highlight of the year – all the more so in 1993 as there was so much good to report, both for the Society and for the town. On the positive side he referred to IMPACT, the planned redevelopment of the Western Docks and the beginnings of recovery from recession. On the negative side, however, he had to record the delay to the opening of the Channel Tunnel. (No burst of applause!)

He stated that the publication of the Peverley Papers, was one step nearer, for with an additional sponsorship of £1000 from a Eurotunnel subsidiary and a further £100 donation from Hammonds, printing costs could be comfortably covered.

The Society was in close contact with IMPACT, which had £2 million to spend in next three years to improve Dover's image. Julian Owen, the IMPACT project leader, had addressed the Committee and, with members of his team, had attended the March Members' Meeting, which produced many suggestions for serious consideration. The Society was represented on the consultative Forum and had been advised by the Ramsgate Society on their experience with IMPACT.

The Society had made submissions on the Local Plan and had been involved in matters as diverse as the relocation of the Rolls statue on the Seafront, the future of the Marine Station, the Dover Patrol Memorial, Royal Victoria Hospital housing scheme, the architecture of the new Co-op, the quality of shop fronts and the chimneys at Buckland Mill. There had been sharp correspondence with the Department of Transport via M.P. David Shaw regarding the problems with the Whitfield By-pass, one-way traffic in London Road and the dualling of the A2. Sympathy, and a contribution rather than tea, had been given to Crabble Corn Mill Trust. Possible additions to listed buildings were to be investigated.

Our Secretary had involved himself in water and sewage treatment problems and worked hard to assist Sister Ambrose in her case against excessive pumping by Folkestone & District Water Co. The proposed location of the sewage treatment plant at Farthingloe left much to be desired and efforts to find a better solution would continue.

Proceeding to Social events, the Chairman welcomed Joan Liggett as a worthy successor to Lin Clackett and recorded the successful visits to a local vineyard, Chatham Dockyard and St. Omer. One of the highlights of the year had been the Dickens Evening with Professor Curry who held a packed hall spellbound and, at the same time benefited both the Split Charity and St. Martins Trust. A special vote of thanks was due to Budge Adams for props as well as printing on that occasion. Members and guests had enjoyed another successful Wine and Wisdom Evening, thanks to Clive Taylor.

The Chairman thanked Sheila Cope, the Membership Secretary, in whose hands numbers had risen from 328 to 378* and Sheila and her husband, Jeremy, for organising fund-raising raffles at public meetings. He thanked Merrill Lilley for her editorship of the *Newsletter* and Budge Adams for its production and printing and welcomed Bruce Lilley as Advertising manager.

John Owen was reported to be continuing the good work on projects with Lydden Pond now holding water and Lydden School using a rain-gauge, donated in appreciation of the children's help. The Lousybery Wood plantation had been improved by bramble clearance and another 'Dour Scour' organised with assistance from local cadets. Residual funds from the now defunct River Dour Society had been transferred to the Dover Society via David Elms.

The Chairman commented on the excellent relations with the D.H.B. despite the Society's opposition to the proposed sea front petrol station and continuous consultation with Bill Fawcus on the development of the Western Docks was welcomed. The new Chairman of the Planning Sub-Committee, Lawrence Gage, has drawn the Society's response. The superstore plan was not approved by all but it was recognised that it was a necessary condition of further development.

Dover Harbour Board has offered £700 towards the cost of the Peverley Publication, re-housed the Transport Museum and allowed the use of rooms at Cambridge Terrace for committee meetings for the last four years, and assisted with the lifting and storage of the major archaeological find, the Bronze Age Boat. The Chairman congratulated Keith Parfitt on his discovery, saying that it compensated somewhat for all the chaos of the new A20.

He went on to mention the talk by John Moir, the Chief Executive of Dover District Council, who forecast that an enlarged DDC would survive the impending death of the KCC, remarking that the Society's continuous dialogue with DDC was 'friendly but not uncritical'.

At the end of his report the Chairman mentioned changes in the committee. Phylis Dobbins, now living in Leeds, was thanked "for her outspoken services". He lamented the resignation of the Treasurer, Ken Berry, 'who had progressed from tight-fisted tyranny to open-handed generosity, notably to Crabble Mill and the Shepherdswell Railway'. Congratulations were conveyed to him and Delysia (as Christmas Feast choirmistress and AGM hostess *par excellence*) on their forthcoming Golden Wedding. Jennifer Gerrard has agreed to act as Treasurer, Jenny Olpin was the new Press Officer and Paul Youden the Publicity Advisor. Thanks to Leo Wright, the Chairman of the Planning Sub-Committee was now architect Lawrence Gage who had relieved Ken Wraight after his two stints in that capacity.

The Chairman expressed his regret that the Society's founder, Philomena Kennedy, was not standing for re-election to the committee, saying that there had been occasions when Philomena and he had differed but he hoped that she considered their 'sparring partnership' had served a useful purpose.

Brigadier Maurice Atherton followed the Chairman's report with a short address, saying that he considered it an honour to have been asked to follow the Countess of Guilford. He and his wife are both natives of Yorkshire but they had a special affection for Dover. He spoke of the Queen Mother's appointment as Lord Warden and added that he still took his weekly *Dover Express*. He would be happy to help the Society in any way, but would not meddle.

Topics raised by members were diverse . . . a casino for Dover, a children's farm, a theatre, an open market, a French store e . . . and there were objections to the proposed Western Docks superstore and the Lydden MacLaren Track.

* At the editorial deadline this figure had risen to 406.

After the interval, when refreshments were served and raffle tickets sold, Bill Fawcus, Dover Harbour Board Property Development Manager, gave a talk on the Board's plans, introduced with two contrasting comments on the Western Docks Scheme. "Grandiose and incredible, pardon me if I yawn", from columnist Paula James and "low key and dull" from the Dover Society Chairman and the Planning Sub-Committee Chairman. Mr Fawcus continued by reminding his audience that DHB owned the Harbour and most of the seafront of the busiest passenger port in Europe, through which 18 million people had passed in 1992, with obvious effect on the town's roads and traffic problems.

Things would change radically with the new A20. The Western Dock area would become a shop window and this would call for major investment. He did not envisage a Canary Wharf type of development and did not share the Dover Society's optimism about the Millennium Fund. Self-help was, therefore, the answer, with a partner experienced in waterside development. This partner was to be Pearce Developments of Bristol, whose master plan involved expansion of the marina as a focus of tourism and leisure with a new superstore linked to speciality shops overlooking the water and residential and office accommodation.

The process had already started with the renovation of the old Shalimar Hotel which was now providing office space for South African businesses seeking closer contact with the European market. Ideally the Harbour Board would like to attract a large department such as Customs and Excise. Profits from the superstore should provide funds to enhance the marina and improve pedestrian links with the rest of the town. The Dover Society's suggestion of a transport or maritime museum was a non-starter. It would need an entrance fee of £250 plus VAT!

Mr Fawcus concluded by distributing brochures on the Pearce plans and some questionnaires for comments and suggestions.

Finally, came the presentation to the Society's founder, Philomena Kennedy, upon the occasion of her resignation from the Committee and her address, a brief history of the Dover Society, prefaced by the remark that she was still surprised that she had founded it.

When in 1987 the Museum staff had appealed for guides for the Drop Redoubt Philomena had volunteered and at one stage someone had remarked in discussion that the town needed a civic society – the seed had been sown! By early 1988 it was beginning to grow, fed by fears of the possible loss of Connaught Park to a caravan site and Pencester Gardens to buildings.

Philomena had seen the urgent need to bring concerned people together; Sheila and Jeremy Cope had offered their home for meetings, where Steering Committee sessions had been held in March and April 1988 with Jack Woolford in the chair – a position which he had accepted with alacrity when asked. The Inaugural Meeting of the Society had taken place on 25th April in the Menzies Hall, by kind permission of the Headmaster of Dover College. The first Committee had been duly elected at that time. About a hundred people had attended – a very successful launch!

Peter Johnson made an excellent speech, setting the standard by which the Society had tried to abide – of being well-informed and responsible, and critical but constructive when necessary, in providing an independent voice on matters of interest and concern in the town and surrounding villages.

The Society had been fortunate in its first Social Secretary, Lin Clackett and her successor Joan Liggett. They had organised annual programmes of public and members' meetings,

social events, visits and the Christmas Feast. It had never been necessary to cancel anything for lack of support.

The Society had initiated the presentation of Dover Society Awards, had forged useful links with the Dover Harbour Board and the Chamber of Commerce, had begun positive dialogue with the Dover District Council via the Planning Sub-Committee, registered with the Civic Trust and the Charity Commissioners, became affiliated to the Kent Federation of Amenity Societies and had been represented on the Eurotunnel's Consultative Committee.

Referring to the Society's original concerns in 1988, Philomena pointed out that Pencester Gardens and Connaught Park remained intact for public enjoyment, Brook House had fallen down when nudged by a Council vehicle early one morning, some shop fronts had been improved, the Grand Shaft was open, Crabble Mill renovated, the White Cliffs Experience was attracting many visitors and the Channel Tunnel seemed less of a threat than in 1988.

At the 1990 AGM the Chairman had had to record with sorrow the death of a Vice-President, Ray Warner. The Society had acquired a very efficient Chairman of the Projects sub-committee in John Owen, who had organised tree planting at Lousybery Wood and the re-lining of Lydden Pond and had won national awards with them. The Secretary, among others, had organised a well-attended concert by Primavera in the Maison Dieu Hall. In the same year the Society's 'elder statesman' and Vice-President 'Budge' Adams had taken over the production of our *Newsletter* and in his hands the former type-written and stapled sheets had been transformed into a prestigious publication.

1991 had seen a capacity audience for the 'Save our Sewage' meeting in February, indicating the strength of local concern and the Society's ability to bring various interest groups together, and John Peverely's address to the A.G.M. had resulted in a decision to incorporate some of the material into a publication about the Western Heights. After three years Philomena had decided to bow out as Editor and Merrill Lilley had taken over with *Newsletter* No. 11 after handing over her membership responsibility to Sheila Cope. That autumn, too, the first of the cross-Channel trips had been arranged to Calais.

In 1992 the first Festival of Dover was held, to which, of course, the Society had made its contribution. It had been at the official launch that Merrill and Philomena had met a member of Julian Owen's Ramsgate IMPACT team which prompted the suggestion that they should be invited to give the Society a pre-view of their ideas for Dover. Throughout 1992 the A20 roadworks had continued to cause chaos and concern, but they had at least led to the discovery of the Bronze Age Boat!

Philomena concluded by expressing her gratitude for all the kind words said about her and the splendid gifts of a bouquet and book and assured members that she would continue to follow the progress of the Society with great interest.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Philomena received a beautifully bound copy of DOVER PRIORY: A History of the Priory of St. Mary the Virgin and St. Martin of the New Work by Charles Reginald Haines, published by C.U.P. in 1930.

Strawberry Tea at Dover College

—DAHLIA HARRIS

A BRIGHT BUT BREEZY DAY brought over sixty people along to enjoy the guided tour and strawberry and cream tea on Saturday, 19th June. Members and friends were split into four groups and our guide happened to be Mrs Marjorie Wright. We started at the Effingham Crescent entrance where we learned that the Priory was founded in 1130 by King Henry I. It's full and correct title was "The Priory of St. Martin and St. Mary of the New Work or Newark". It received VIPs from all over Europe and was obliged to feed and house them free of charge. Records show Kings Stephen, Henry II, Edward II and Henry VIII among those staying there.

We were shown a print from 1760 showing only a few buildings on this site surrounded by meadows, only a footpath where the now busy Folkestone Road runs.

The Priory had a great library containing 15,000 books at the time of the Renaissance, which were all catalogued. Unfortunately, they were scattered all over Europe and only a tenth of them are now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford.

During the years of the Dissolution, the buildings looted and torn down, it became a farm. Even when then site was known as 'Priory Meadow' it was used for the ceremonial installation of the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. Our Queen Mother heads a long list which includes Sir Winston Churchill, Sir Robert Menzies and, of course, the Duke of Wellington, for whose installation a magnificent temporary pavilion was built in 1839.

When the College was founded in 1871 it probably looked something like St. Radigund's Abbey today, a meadow, a farm and some ruins. The surviving four mediæval buildings are the Chapel, the Gatehouse, The Cloisters and the Refectory. Behind the School House we visited a pleasant walled garden, ideal for music or open-air theatre, these were probably the walls of a 'common' guest house.

From the garden we walked to the Chapel, built in 1139. It was very moving to see the names inscribed on the walls of men and boys from the College who died in the Boer War and the two World Wars. In the days of the Priory this was not a chapel but most probably a 'first-class' guest house. It is said the King Stephen died in this hall in 1154. It was long called the King's Hall or White Hall.

Crossing to the Gatehouse we passed the site of the monks' carp pond. The outline of the pond can still be clearly seen after torrential rain. The Gatehouse, built in 1320, is now used for sixth-form reading rooms. Restored in 1882 and again in 1945 it appears on many engravings.

We were fascinated to hear as we walked towards the Refectory from the Gatehouse, that soundings had been made to the depth of eighteen feet, and that we were walking on vaults, cellars and crypts.

The Cloister ruins, where the Priory Church stood, covered a site which extended to Effingham Crescent and into Saxon Street. It was probably the size of Rochester Cathedral. Until quite recently, we could have walked down the ancient steps which led down from the Church, but the area has now been re-levelled and fenced for games. The monks' burial ground was near the south transept of the Church, and skeletons were found in coffins cut in the chalk, when the boiler room for St. Martin's House was built in the 1950s. The monks' dormitories stood along the present line of Effingham Crescent with buildings and gardens extending down to the Maison Dieu and . . . St. Edmund's Chapel.

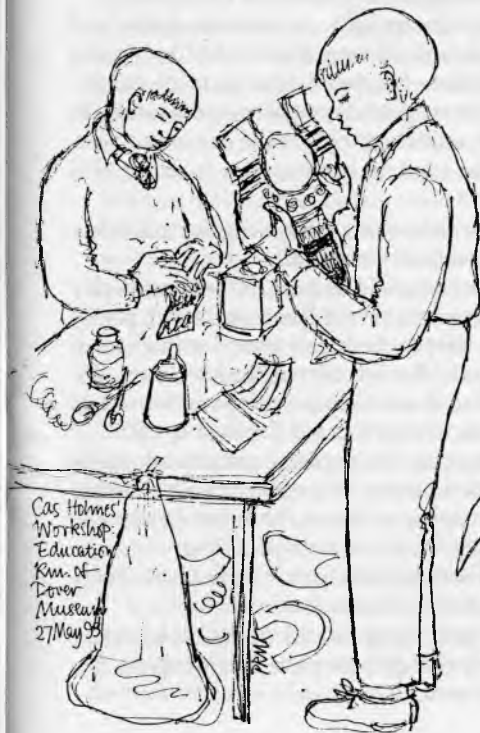
As we entered the Refectory through the new passage, built by the present College workforce, we heard how in 1295 when the French set fire to the building, the stone was changed to pink with the heat. It was built with Caen stone brought from Normandy. In Victorian times there still remained the red-on-white drawing of the Last Supper on the East wall, which was part of a thirteenth century fresco.

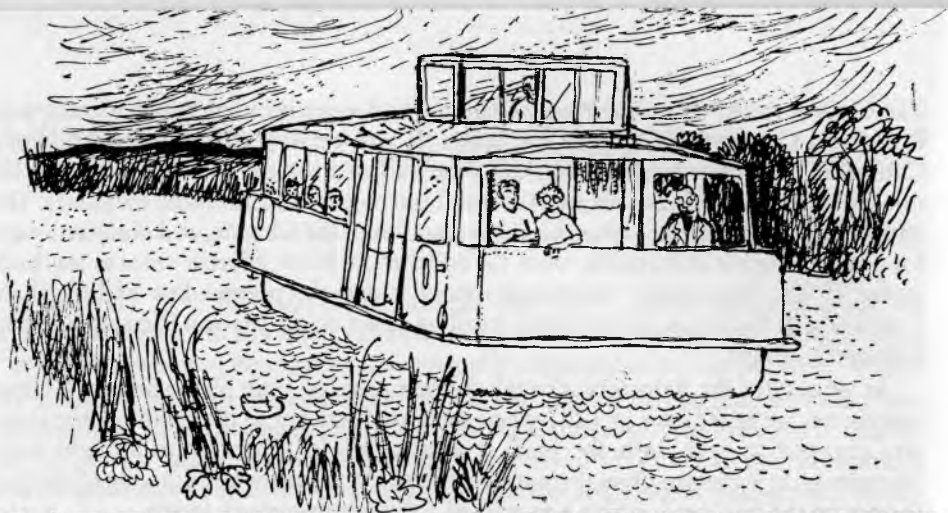
A large shield on the wall reads, "NON RECUSO LABORUM", the motto of St. Martin, which, translated from the Latin, means "I do not refuse to work" which the boys – and girls now – see every day as they dine in this historic hall.

So, as this was the end of our guided tour, we did as many had done before us, used this glorious old Norman refectory to eat – and enjoyed our strawberries and cream! I had invited my daughter as my guest and we both thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and meeting old friends over tea.

EDITOR'S NOTE: As stated on the application form for places for the Tour of Dover College, one of the aims of the day was to introduce new members to the Dover Society. Many of those attending brought friends with them and, as a result, the Dover Society recruited six new members. Many thanks to Joan Liggett for arranging The Day and to all the members who helped with the refreshments and with the guided tours.

Thanks also to Leo Wright for the anecdote concerning the Dover College schoolgirl, who, on entering the College said she understood the motto to mean: "We never vote Labour"!!





SARRE MILL and GROVE FERRY

BILL BREEZE

IN SPITE OF the adverse weather forecast the enjoyment of our trip to Sarre Mill and Grove Ferry on Sunday, 18th July was not marred by inclement conditions. Our coach left Dover by Jubilee Way and, by way of Canterbury and Sturry, we reached Sarre Mill in a slight shower of rain, the only rain we experienced for the whole of the outing.

Sarre Mill is one of England's few remaining commercially worked windmills and produces high quality stone-ground flour in the traditional way. Built in 1820 it passed through many vicissitudes before it became derelict. It needed five years of careful restoration to bring it back to an operational condition and, on days when there is sufficient wind, the four sails are again turning, but were not, unfortunately, on the day of our visit.

Beside being sold in the Mill Shop and used in the adjacent bakery, flour from the Mill is supplied to bakers in the surrounding area.

An additional attraction at the Mill was a number of steam traction engines and other vehicles. The engines were under steam with the machinery turning.

Five minutes drive brought us to Grove Ferry where we embarked on a large launch aptly named "Grove Ferry" – a boat that has accommodation for seventy passengers with plenty of cover in case of rain. After settling on board we were immediately served with a cream tea while the boat began to move slowly downstream in the direction of Pluck's Gutter. We did not, however, travel as far as that place and after about an hour, at a point known as Cut End, we started to go in reverse, the river being too narrow for the boat to turn.

During our trip on the River Stour we were impressed by the large number of motor launches, and an occasional yacht, moored alongside the bank. This seemed to indicate that the boat owners were in the habit of making long trips, possible as far as Sandwich. The river follows a serpentine course and is only straight for a few yards at a time.

Apart from the boating facilities at Grove Ferry the only other feature is the Grove Ferry Inn, a hotel of substantial size, apparently modernised in recent years.

Our coach returned to Dover via Preston, Wingham, Adisham and the A2. It was clear that the members of the party found the trip enjoyable and we once again express our thanks to Joan Liggett for arranging everything so well.

Dover & Folkestone Combined Wastewater Treatment Works

Leo Wright and Lawrence Gage represented the Society at a meeting on 2nd April to hear about the latest plans of Southern Water Services Ltd. for sewage disposal in Dover. Together with representatives of Dover and Shepway District Councils and other interest groups, they were given the opportunity to ask questions of the engineers involved and to express comments.

Lawrence Gage reported as follows:

WE MUST ALL welcome the proposals by Southern Water services to provide wastewater treatment to correct the current appalling situation where all raw sewage, more delicately known as untreated wastewater, from both Folkestone and Dover flows directly into the sea quite close to the shore line. However, as the Investment Manager of Southern Water commented at the meeting, although we all want better sewage treatment, nobody likes the idea of a treatment works on their patch. Unfortunately there is no magic or simple solution to the problem, and it is inevitable that any scheme, however well conceived, will have some detrimental environmental effects and will certainly cost an enormous sum. The trick will be to minimise the environmental impact whilst keeping the costs within reason.

Various options for the scheme have been considered including separate systems for both towns and nearly forty sites for the treatment plant have been investigated. It seems that the best option available is to build a single treatment plant serving both town within the Farthingloe Valley, either on the site of the existing temporary Eurotunnel car park or alternatively at Broomfield Bank which is immediately opposite on the other side of the A20. In either case the plant will be in a massive 150m x 50m x 12m box, buried underground with only a relatively small vent shaft showing on the surface. There will also need to be an access road across the site for lorries to service the plant. The site area needed is about one hectare and we were assured that the site will be carefully reinstated and landscaped so that the treatment plant will have little visual impact on the valley.

The proposed plant will provide primary treatment only to the wastewater but it will be planned to allow for secondary processes on the same site at a later date. The treated effluent will be discharged into the sea via a new 2.5 km long outfall from the Western Beach, Dover. Although it would obviously be better to have secondary treatment, what is proposed will conform to E.C. regulations regarding quality of bathing water and will be a vast environmental improvement on the current situation.

In addition to the treatment plant itself, a great length of new pipework and tunnels will be required in both towns, but particularly in Folkestone, and also to and from the treatment plant. A number of new pumping stations will be needed in Folkestone and a new pumping station will be built in Dover adjacent to the existing one in Elizabeth Street. Its architecture, we are told,

will be 'appropriate' and of a high standard. There is no doubt that these new drainage runs will cause considerable disruption during construction, with Folkestone suffering more than Dover. It is to be hoped that the proposals will not require the digging up of the brand new A20!

It may seem somewhat illogical and wasteful of energy to pump the waste water up from Elizabeth Street, only for it to return down again after treatment but when the overall scheme is considered, this, we are told, is the most viable technical and cost option. It is hoped that some energy can be reclaimed from the gravity flow as the treated waste runs down to the sea.

The meeting convinced me that Southern Water are genuinely interested to hear and respond to the views of societies such as ours, and, despite the considerable difficulties involved, they are determined to reduce the environmental damage of the scheme to the minimum. They are currently undertaking a full environmental appraisal of the scheme to accompany planning applications. The first of several planning applications will be made in August this year and the Dover Society will have the opportunity to comment again as details are further developed. Construction is planned to take three years after planning consents are obtained so the earliest we can expect completion is towards the end of 1997.

The estimated cost of the combined scheme for Dover and Folkestone is a massive £124 million which represents more than 60% of the total budget for Southern Water's 'Operation Seaclean' and probably the largest single investment ever made in Dover. In this case, however, it is to be hoped that we don't see too much for our money! ♦

Monthly Report on the work of the Planning Sub-Committee

by LAWRENCE GAGE, *Chairman*

THE PLANNING WATCHDOG

The Planning Sub-Committee has been very active in the past few months., All planning applications made to the District Council have been inspected and when considered necessary, written representations have been made on behalf of the Society. Sometimes we are able fully to support an application but inevitably many of the points raised are critical of what is being proposed, but we do aim to comment in a constructive way with suggestions on how a particular application could be improved.

We are also involved with some planning matters long before formal applications are made. The current scheme for the combined waste water treatment plant is a typical example of the Society's active involvement right from the start of negotiations. The Sub-committee works closely with Dover District Council, Dover Harbour Board, Impact and other relevant organisations.

Planning applications need to be commented upon within a week or so and although the Sub-committee meets regularly to discuss applications it is not always possible to consult the full membership on every issue. However the Sub-committee does try to ensure that any planning issues, such as the current proposals for the Western Docks redevelopment are given a good airing at general meetings of the Society.

The Sub-committee also aims to keep members informed of planning issues and of its own activities through the pages of the Newsletter.

The Planning Sub-committee welcomes the views of members on any planning issue and would like to receive any information you may have, whether factual or rumoured, that could assist in the 'watchdog' rôle of the Dover Society. *Please contact the Chairman of the Sub-committee, Lawrence Gage, during working hours on Dover 242749 or by calling at his office at 9 Castle Street.*

SUMMARY OF RECENT PLANNING ISSUES

ISSUE	DOVER SOCIETY COMMENT
Whitfield by-pass and 2-level junction at Guston	Some reservations—particularly details of heights and landscaping details. Permission has been granted subject to further details.
Western Docks Redevelopment	General welcome. Criticism of details of Pearce Scheme. Improvements suggested. Consultation continues.
Cherry Tree Avenue Car Breakers	Despite hard-fought battle, K.C.C. have sold site to occupiers, who will remain.
Power Plant Buckland Paper Mill	Considerable reservations re number (3) and height (30m) of chimneys and possible pollution. Permission granted.
Listed Buildings. Western Docks	Recommending the listing of further buildings in this area. (i.e. Clock Tower, Old Custom House, Harbour Station, Interior of Cinque Ports Arms P.H.)
Waste Water Treatment Scheme for Dover and Folkestone. Treatment plant at Broomfield Bank, Farthingloe. (See separate report)	Society worried about economic viability of Scheme. Prefer platform site. Negotiations continue.
Temporary use of existing tunnel workers' village at Farthingloe for offices and training.	Opposed to this but permission granted.
Permission <u>not</u> to remove Eurotunnel road and re-instate landscape. Farthingloe.	Society would like to see the whole area reinstated but with permission to keep road open
Canopy, 10 High Street.	Objected. Unsuitable design and details.
Sweet shop and Tea Rooms, 7 Market Square	Strongly supported. <i>cont. overleaf</i>

Russell Street Multi Storey Car Park
Renewal of expired permission

Objected. Permission likely to be confirmed to keep open the option of developing this site. Society pressing for 'master plan' for whole area.

Proposed Market, Adjacent Charlton Centre.

Prefer site(s) for market based around the Market Square. (several sites are under consideration)

Display Canopy – Old Flour Mill, Lorne Rd.

Too large, unsuitable design for listed building. Permission refused.

IMPACT

(Environmental Improvement for Dover)

Due to open at ex Martin Walter showrooms, Castle Street on 28th July.?

Conundrums & Conviviality

ANSWERS

1. The Emperor Claudius
2. 1962
3. Four shillings
4. 1736
5. 593 lbs.
6. The Basin (or Bason)
7. Love Lane
8. Lizzie
9. The Portsmen of the Cinque Ports
10. Bleak House
11. Emperor Napoleon III and Empress Eugenie
12. 1854
13. In Constable's Gate, Dover Castle
14. (a) 1605 (b) 1861
15. Elizabeth I
16. Thomas Wells (part of whose trial is recreated in the 'Town Hall Gaol').



Cas Holmes' Workshop
Pupil of St. Richard's
Primary School

Marcus Longley was born in St. Margaret's Bay, was Head Prefect at Dover Boys' Grammar School in 1977/788 and went on to read Modern History at Oxford. He now lives in Wales, but keeps in touch with Dover through his parents (who still live at River) and through the *Newsletter*.

Local Government Re-organisation the Welsh Way: A Personal View

MARCUS LONGLEY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION in Wales has moved more quickly than in many parts of England, and many of the arguments which have arisen will find echoes in Dover as elsewhere. In particular, the clear implication is that the new councils will actually provide very few services themselves, and that privatisation and joint working will be the new order.

'ABOUT AS WELCOME AS A RAT SANDWICH!' THAT WAS HOW THE WELSH NATIONALIST MP FOR ANGLESEY described the new Secretary of State for Wales, John Redwood. Of course, Secretaries of State for Wales who come from England, with constituencies in the home counties, are not immediately welcomed with open arms by many Welsh people. In this instance, the reaction was also affected by the difficult situation here with regard to local government reform. Before his recent elevation to the Cabinet, Mr Redwood was the local government Minister in England, and he inherits in the Principality a considerable political storm concerning the future of local government.

In Wales, responsibility for local councils lies with the Welsh Office and not the Department of the Environment. Mr Redwood's predecessor, David Hunt (now Secretary of State for Employment), decided that a commission to consider all the relevant issues was not necessary in Wales, and so, after rather a fraught period of consultation during which the counties and districts fought tooth and nail to prove their superiority, he published a White Paper* in March of this year. Unfortunately, in the view of many impartial (as well as partisan) observers, this failed to settle many of the very difficult arguments.

Some of these arguments may be of interest to Dover, because although the circumstances of Kent and Wales are different in many respects, there are also some important similarities. There may be something of a more personal interest, too, since John Redwood himself was born in Dover and went to school in Canterbury!

So why re-organise? Wales, with a population of about 2.8 million, has since 1974 had 8 counties and 37 district councils. They fulfil the same functions as their counterparts in England, but the counties are smaller (Mid Glamorgan, the largest, has

a population of only half a million, for example). The new structure envisages 21 unitary authorities, which, because of the mixture of rural and urban communities in Wales, will range in size from Cardiff (almost 300,000) to Cardiganshire (66,700). The intention of the re-organisation is to create authorities

- which are based on established communities;
- which are clearly accountable to the people they serve;
- which can operate efficiently and responsively *'by taking full advantage of the enabling rôle of local government'*; and
- which *'will work with each other, and with other agencies, to promote the well-being of those they serve'*

There are many issues here, but it will perhaps be most useful to concentrate on what many see as the fundamental contradiction between these four aims. It is argued that it is almost impossible to achieve the first two aims and at the same time achieve the last two; to reconcile local communities and local accountability, with efficiency and joint working. The first two seemed to demand (in most cases) small councils, with populations certainly no greater than 100,000, and perhaps even fewer (MPs represent about 60,000 people, for instance). But how is any council to deliver services for education, social services, highways, economic development, cultural and leisure services, emergency planning, trading standards, and the rest, if they are so small? How will they each be able to justify the overheads of employing expert staff, computer systems, purchasing organisations? If local government is already burdened with bureaucratic costs, how much worse will it be if there are many more councils? The answer lies, as they say, in the small print. Each council simply cannot be allowed to 'do its own thing'— they will be *'enablers'*. In other words, almost all services will be provided in the future in one of three ways:

- by the private sector, or by direct labour forces which have survived competitive tendering, *or*
- by 'opted out' bodies— there will be very few schools, for instance, left in local authority control in a few years' time; *or*
- by adjacent councils working together.

We are already familiar with the first two of these— and they will become ever more common— but we have relatively little experience of the last. The assumption, in Wales at least, has been that each new council would have control over its own destiny, and could if it so wished run its own Social Services, Education, Highways and other departments. It was on this basis that Welsh district councils fought so hard to make the boundaries of the new unitary authorities as close as possible to their own. But the realisation is now dawning, with the publication of the White Paper, that their apparent

victory may prove to be pyrrhic. The White Paper calls for the new authorities to reach voluntary agreements with their neighbours for the joint provision of these services, where they are too small to provide them themselves. But there is an implicit recognition that this may be expecting too much of the newly-created gung-ho councils, and the 'small print' says...

There may be occasions when authorities are not able to work together on terms which are mutually satisfactory. This must not be allowed to affect the delivery of services; the Secretary of State therefore proposes to have available to him reserve powers, for use as necessary to ensure that proper service delivery arrangements are in place'

These two words 'reserve powers' should not be under-estimated. There are other indications, too, as to how this may work. For example, the statutory bar on one authority providing an education service for another is to be removed by the Education Bill; the White Paper similarly proposes to remove the statutory requirement for each authority to have its own social services provision; particular authorities will be nominated to develop expertise on behalf of the others in highways; and there are many other instances.

Of course, this is not entirely new, and counties in Wales, for example, have been working jointly on the Principality's four police authorities for many years. But the vision of the future offered here is for a major extension of this principle.

The outcome in Wales, therefore, has been to satisfy neither of the two main protagonists: the counties are to be abolished, and the districts, who thought they stood to inherit the new world, suddenly find themselves with much less autonomy than they had thought.

The key message from all this for the people of Dover would appear to be a note of caution. Do not become obsessed with issues such as size and geographical boundaries, but rather ask the simple question: what will the new councils actually be allowed to do?

* Secretary of State for Wales (March 1993), *Local Government in Wales: a Charter for the Future*. London HMSO.

IN MEMORIAM:

*The Society is sad to have to record the death of
Mr David Church, of 50 Lower Road, Temple Ewell, Dover
whose Membership No. was 119
and sends its condolences to his family and friends.*

76 TRAMS, TRAINS and a YELLOW TOAST RACK

PHILOMENA KENNEDY

HAVE YOU BEEN to the DOVER TRANSPORT MUSEUM in its new home? If not, may I suggest that, even if you know little about the subject as I do, you make tracks down to Cambridge Road to see what a small, dedicated and very capable bunch of enthusiasts have on show. There's the yellow 'toastrack' open-sided bus of c1929, a splendid Rolls Royce of 1932, an old fire engine, model trams shunting up and down a track and model trains rushing round and round, a period railway ticket office which almost brings back the smell of steam trains, displays about air and sea transport and much, much more. If you show interest there is always a volunteer around to tell you about their current restoration projects. I was shown two old trams which had, in the recent past, served as a henhouse (or was it a garden shed?) and a dwelling and which were saved in the nick of time from total disintegration.

There are no prizes for finding your way to the Museum while the A20 road works continue, except the pleasure which awaits you, but Dover Society members are no doubt able to work out the route. There's an interesting view over Wellington Dock from the back, too.

DOVER TRANSPORT MUSEUM, Units 8-10 Cambridge Road.

Contact phone no. 204612

Open Easter to end October. Wednesday to Saturday 14.00 – 17.00

Sunday 11.00 – 17.00. Tea Room and Gift Shop open Sundays.

Adult £2. Senior Citizen £1. Child £1.

- ◆ 4 - 5 SEPTEMBER (Saturday and Sunday) **WORLD WAR II VEHICLE RALLY** at **WHITE CLIFFS EXPERIENCE**.
- ◆ 4 OCTOBER. **BUS RALLY** ends at the Transport Museum at approx. 15.00.

THE DOVER TRANSPORT MUSEUM SOCIETY exists to restore vehicles and transport-related items, to run the Museum, to attend rallies and fêtes with some of the vehicles and to assist with exhibitions. Members also enjoy social evenings.

Further information on membership is available at the Museum or via the phone number given above.



[It is intriguing to discover that there is an area of Britain that is subject to no controlling body – no planners, no public health authorities, no control by the Ministry of the Environment or the Department of Transport – it is free and unmolested though in itself it does pose a constant threat to one particular section of the community.]

One Evening in June

R. L. RATCLIFFE

S EVEN MILES EAST OF DEAL PIER there lies a large acreage of Kent over which no local authority has any jurisdiction. It is a sinister and peculiarly occasional land, this relic of the lost Island of Lomea, the very name of which has down the centuries struck terror into the hearts of the hardiest of seafarers. The bones of many a fine ship lie buried there, together with the bones of their crews, crushed in a thousand shipwrecks, frozen in winter gales or drowned as the tides twice daily reclaim the transient land which is the Goodwin.

It was thus with mixed thoughts that I took the opportunity to visit this place with a party organised by the Goodwin Sands Pot-Holing Club, a charitable organisation raising money for youth activities in East Kent. The fascination of discovering a new landscape was tempered by the knowledge of its past and of the graveyard that it is.

So it came about that I joined over 400 intrepid explorers at Dover's Hoverport on a glorious June evening, and what a mixed bag of extroverts they appeared to be. There were, of course, cricketers, for this sport has been a tradition of many a visit to the sands. There were those with picnic hampers, folding chairs, buckets and spades ... There were three gentlemen in evening dress, one in full mining gear complete with rope ladder, even

a “German” car park attendant, or rather U-boat park attendant. Eventually we were herded aboard the *Princess Anne* for the fifteen minute “flight”. Soaring out of Dover Harbour we were regaled by the standard bi-lingual tape about duty-frees, only to be told that this didn't actually apply! The sea was being the proverbial mill-pond (for those who could remember what mill-ponds once looked like) as we passed St. Margaret's Bay and the South Foreland. On north-eastward, we were advised by the captain that the two forlorn masts to port were those of the “Victory” ship of that name, the last of a trio of American ships that paid the price of false economy in not taking on pilots in the years after the Second World War. *North Eastern Victory* ploughed on to the South Sand Head at Christmastide 1946 and her cargo of grapefruit littered the shore from Ramsgate to Dover. Walmer lifeboat watched over her for three days and nights before the captain could be persuaded that his ship was finished and it was time for him to leave her.

Approaching the sands from the eastward, two miles north-west of the East Goodwin light vessel it was uncanny to be aboard a craft that was deliberately running ashore – quite safely – with 424 happy passengers intent on a “good time”. How many multiples of 424 would over the centuries have given all they possessed to be making the return trip. As it was, we landed twice. Once to disembark the TVS camera crew so that it could film us “arriving”, and then to allow us to land for a one and a half hour exploration.

Even at low tide there was a lot of water on the sands, in the form of shallow pools, though the sand in between was firm, unless you stood still. To the eastward the edge of the sand met the North Sea in a straight line reminiscent of any shore-connected beach, and we humans wandered along this sand, watching the seals that we had temporarily deposed, who in turn watched us in the knowledge that they would be the ultimate possessors. It was a glorious evening, with the sun sinking slowly to the westward over the Kentish shore. On that side the edge of the sand is far less finite, with a series of inlets, gullies and swatchways forming Trinity Bay. Some of the party wandered far off in this direction, to form specks on the horizon, though most stayed within a quarter of a mile of the Hovercraft, eating strawberries, sipping champers, or sitting on shooting sticks and gazing seaward.

I did none of these things, spending my time photographing others so doing, and eventually



shedding shoes and socks to paddle across the shallows rather than walk round them. From the waters of one such pool there rose from the depths two grotesque and weed-covered arms in apparent supplication, all that today remains visible of one of the guardians of the sands, the South Goodwin Light Vessel that the sands claimed for themselves, together with her crew, back in the 1960s. It was an odd feeling to realise that she – and they – lay just beneath our feet, along with countless other ships and their crews.

But now the little pools were growing, and were joining together. The sand beneath our feet was feeling softer, for the tide was on the flood, and it was time for us to go. Aboard *Princess Anne* we executed a farewell waltz as only a hovercraft can, and then headed back for Dover. Behind us the seals reclaimed their sandbank as we thundered past the masts of the *North Eastern Victory*, sentinel today of more recent strandings. Fifteen minutes later we were back in Dover, with our cricket bats and shooting sticks and pot-holing gear, to disperse back to our homes across the county. Meanwhile the rising tide had again enveloped the great ship swallower, and in doing so had eradicated the evidence – the sand castle, the cigarette ends, the footprints of the 400 who dared to invade it on such a perfect evening.



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Bob Ratcliffe has long been a pillar of the City of Rochester Society and is now its President. Our Chairman, Jack Woolford, has known Mr Ratcliffe for many years through the Kent Federation of Amenity Societies and, by chance, met on the Goodwin Sands Pot-holing trip, which resulted in this article.

Mr Ratcliffe is also an expert on the history of transport in Kent and may address the Society in 1994 on the coming of the railways to Dover in the 1840's and 50's.



A.D.43 – EXHIBITION AT DOVER MUSEUM

24th June – 31st October ————— MERRIL LILLEY

SINCE THE MUSEUM returned to its old, sympathetically rebuilt premises in the Market Square, Doverians have been fortunate to have on their doorstep one of the best exhibition galleries in Kent. The current exhibition, A.D.43, depicts the story of the Roman invasion of Britain, the 350 years of Roman occupation and its effect on the everyday life of the Britons. The attractive display panels are informative and comprehensive and there is a wealth of original material from diverse sources, collected together for this major exhibition; Roman pottery, coins and metalwork from Richborough, a tombstone from Boulogne of a freed slave of a Roman officer serving in the Classis Britannica fleet; replicas of the spectacular grave goods from the burial of an Iron Age warrior found in Deal, restored and copied by the British Museum.

There are, of course, plenty of exhibits, focusing on the Romans in Dover, which serve to remind local residents just how, when and where the Romans occupied the area. There is also interesting evidence of links between Dover and Boulogne in pre-Roman and Roman times, including iron age coins found along this coast and the tombstone from Boulogne.

Around A.D.117 the Roman fleet, the Classis Britannica, began building a fort at Dover, which was occupied, abandoned and re-occupied at various times throughout the second century A.D. The settlement which grew up around the fort may have been as large as five hectares, with a military bathhouse, a mansio, or hotel (the Painted House) and various other structures. In the exhibition, plans pinpointing the location of Roman buildings, a model of the Pharos and numerous locally-discovered artifacts, enable the viewer to conjure up a picture of the town in Roman times. It is almost possible to imagine some of the characters from the Roman tableau in the White Cliffs Experience walking the streets about their everyday affairs.

Congratulations to the Curator and staff of Dover Museum for producing, since the inauguration of the gallery, constantly-changing exhibitions of such a high standard and especially, on this occasion, to Jon Iveson for one of the most memorable and intriguing to date, an absolute MUST for all interested in Roman history and particularly the history of our town.

Our Chairman attended the official opening of this very interesting exhibition and reported accordingly.

'INVASION A.D.43'

The Roman Invasion of Britain: Dover Museum

JACK WOOLFORD

I WAS PLEASED to accept Dover District Council's invitation to the opening of the new exhibition, the more so as the words 'togas optional' appeared on the card. I could not comply with this because the Woolfords (wolf wards: guardians of the community against wolves) who came to Dover with the first Anglo-Saxon pirates but who immediately settled and romanised, pawned their togas, when the legions left in A.D. 410, to pay their travel costs to Hartlepool. I was very favourably impressed with the libation-pouring ladies and with the gentlemen, like Cllr. Kit Smith who had retained their togas – though the fact that all the gentlemen, including one in horn-rimmed spectacles, wore laurel wreaths puzzled me. I didn't know which of their personal triumphs they were celebrating. The fully armed warrior who read the proclamation of the exhibition, which he translated from Latin effortlessly, and at sight, into English, was even more impressive.

Christine Waterman, the Curator (also speaking in English) rightly singled out Jon Iveson as the main begetter of the exhibits and the display, and how right she was. Rightly, because Dover was less important in A.D.43, when invasion was successful, than in 55 B.C. when it failed, and it was accordingly necessary to borrow exhibits from Bath and beyond. I was, however, especially pleased to note that Brian Philp had provided some artifacts, an augury, one hopes, of improving archæological relationships.

The design of the exhibition, with its red panelled walls, is atmospherically brilliant, and, using the best modern display techniques, offers enough information to explain the campaign and the exhibits without making too great demands on visitors.

The exhibition lasts until 31st October and I shall be surprised if our members do not feel themselves enriched by it.



A Centurion's
Helmet

PROJECTS

UPDATE by JOHN OWEN, Chairman of the Projects Committee

BT
environment
 May 22-31 1993
week

THE DOVER SOCIETY'S

VICTORIAN LEOPARD BOLLARD RESTORATION PROJECT

EVER SINCE Joe Harman's article in the September 1991 *Newsletter* it has been felt that the dilapidated state of the Victorian Leopard Bollards, especially on the Zig-Zag public footpath and Harold Street and Harold Passage, should be put right. Their refurbishment would be a worthwhile and noticeable contribution to the tourist scene and an expression of our Society's civic pride and regard for our heritage.

Researcher Joe Harman, in his article, highlighted the importance of the St. Martin's Priory leopards in the history of Dover and this was, indeed, to feature strongly in their restoration. The Project Sub-committee, seeing the time was right to take on another project and believing that here was a manageable objective, sought, with the help of Dover District Council, St. Mary's school children and a small but strong team of dedicated Society members, to tackle the



Work in hand on part of the old Deal Road. Joe Harman and Barry Late at work, Anne Owen and Rupert look on. left: Children of St. Mary's School help with the project.

Teacher: Mrs Vicki Brown



restoration with the completion date scheduled for ENVIRONMENT WEEK, (22/31 May). Such was the enthusiasm of the volunteer team that Charlton Green and Brookfield Place Leopard Bollards were also refurbished in the allotted time.

Work started on 20th March sharply at 07.30! and continued until noon each Saturday through to 29th May (the children doing their bit during mid-week sessions).

The regular team of Ernie, Barry, Joe and John were frequently advised and sometimes helped by casual passers-by. Many were not quite sure what to make of a situation where so much energy was being expended on a Saturday morning in a public place. Volunteers it must be, they concluded! First chipping down to bare metal, numerous advisors suggested less energetic systems but failed to deliver! Priming was followed by black paint with the heads and top band gilded in the style of the refurbished one at the corner of Castle Street and Eastbrook Place. The detail has been so well picked out that the names of the suppliers now appear quite clearly: WRIGHT and JOYCE, both Dover firms.

The children of St. Mary's C.E. School, in whose area the project was set, were enthusiastic from the start. Organised by Mr David Hadley and led by Mrs Vicki Brown



The work completed and Joe Harman's dream comes true

the children, after a short introductory talk by Mr Harman, set to work wire brushing, rubbing down and painting. They also attended to the finishing touches during ENVIRONMENT WEEK itself. Their headteacher, Mr Fischer, on seeing their work said "how good it is when the young can participate in preserving their environment". Four of the children were lucky enough to be interviewed live on BBC Radio Kent and thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the studios.

No project is without its humour. The over-zealous volunteer who insisted we worked at the Easter weekend was the only one on the day who failed to turn up! The Reverend gentleman who, out walking his dog, stopped to encourage (and help) only to find that Sophie had wandered off (home?) alone. There was the young New Zealander interested but unable to help as he was hitching his way to Murrayfield for the rugby, capped only by him who said "Let me know when you are finished and I'll give you a hand." Then the father 'knowingly' pointing out the lovely pussycats to his offspring. Two youngsters at Charlton Green: "What are you doing that for?" – a prudent count to ten and they biked away and Ernie continued 'cutting-in' his leopard heads.

Lezanne César, on behalf of the school, received a Dover District Council plaque from Mr McFarnell who represented Councillor Barry Smith and Katie Davis received a St. Martin Shield from the Dover Society, presented by Mrs Sheila Cope, the Hon. Membership Secretary, who acknowledged the School's valuable work for the environment. Approximately thirty children

84 helped the adult team of four, altogether putting in 200 'man' hours, the Council paying for the materials used. A congratulatory certificate from the Civic Trust has been received by all who participated in the project along with a 'Thank-you' letter from the District Council.

NOTE from Joe Harman. *Operation Bollard has been a success, and the children of St. Mary's School have enjoyed participating. It was thought that the bollards were all supplied by Wright of Dover but at Harold Street we found that the two there were supplied by J. Joyce of King Street. Joyce also provided the gates at Charlton Cemetery. Another 'Leopard' post has been discovered in Walmer at the end of an alley near the old church.*



OPERATION 'DOUR SCOUR 93'

CADETS NOT DETERRED BY EARLY MORNING RAIN

THIS YEAR WE MOVED AWAY from Environment Week (late May) back to our original March slot for the Dover cadets' spring-clean project, finding dormant nature more suited to our purpose.

The modest area selected was just manageable as an incredible amount of rubbish had accumulated to form a serious public eyesore.

Regardless of poor early morning weather Sunday 14th March saw the cadets concentrating on the south bank of the River Dour downstream of the 'wooden' footbridge to the rear of South Kent College and they soon filled with rubbish the skip provided by the District Council.

Some confusion existed at one stage as to who was competing with whom or whether we were *all* as it were competing against the common enemy – litter. The question of ‘territorial waters’, which we were able to settle amicably, certainly arose at one point. The task itself, however, was self-evident to any passer-by and what we lacked in numbers was well compensated for with sheer enthusiasm. Thanks to the voluntary efforts of Dover cadets the area is now much more presentable to the passing public.

For a number of years annual clean-up operations have been organised by The Dover Society in partnership with Dover District Council; the first involving cadets was in the East Cliff/Castle Hill area in 1990, since when the cadets have removed tons of litter from our local environment as a voluntary community service.

Working against the clock the Combined Cadet Force team from Dover Grammar School was declared the winner and Sgt James Glover CCF received the civic shield award donated by DDC. In presenting the award Jeremy Cope, of The Dover Society, thanked the cadets for giving up their Sunday morning and complimented them on their cheerfulness in carrying out their allotted task.

The project was sponsored by Dover Marks & Spencers and also Dover MacDonaldis who provided hospitality and refreshment for the participants on completion of what was another successful Society project.

THE LYDDEN POND PROJECT

FEBRUARY APART, more normal rainfall in recent months has ensured plenty of water in the pond with retention seemingly improving all the time. Meanwhile we continue to hope for a more balanced weather pattern than that experienced in recent years.

The newly planted daffodils gave a good splash of colour in the spring where none had existed before and much wildlife is presently enjoying the cover and sustenance of the new growth on the banks.

As usual at this time of the year we are leaving nature to itself with as little interference as possible apart from the occasional impromptu evening session when necessary. Peter Hargraves and Ernie Dixon in particular keep a regular eye on things.

Our work-sessions will re-start in the autumn. If you are interested in the welfare of the pond, particularly if you live in the village, do get in touch!

THE LOUSYBERRY WOOD PROJECT

LOSSES HAVE BEEN MINIMAL during the winter months; the saplings are now fully in leaf and thriving. Some shelters we have removed as being no longer necessary; mainly those in relatively bramble-free areas flanking the public footpath.

Where we have left the shelters the saplings are either a) still quite small or b) situated deep in the bramble jungle where they serve as beacons when in the dormant season, for a year or two more, we will again need to clear back the bramble.

It is suggested that as the project area is on Footpath ER182 Temple Ewell (Malvern Rd/Park Rd) to Whitfield now would be a good time to walk this rural area.

Conundrums & Conviviality

was devised in 1991 as a pleasant way for members, and their guests, to meet and get to know each other in pleasant surroundings with a light-hearted quiz as the focus of the evening.

PHILOMENA KENNEDY

THE participants are divided into two groups. No one is expected to know all the answers, most of which can be discovered by asking members of the other group. There are a few questions to which answers are not given and, in these tie-breakers, those with an extensive local knowledge have an advantage. Perhaps you would like to try your local knowledge with some questions from previous years? Answers are given elsewhere in this Newsletter.

In 1991 the Bay Museum in St. Margaret's Bay was the venue and in 1992, Dover Museum. Note that this year's 'Conundrums & Conviviality' takes place on 24th November. Last year's evening was over-subscribed.

1. Which Emperor organised the Roman Invasion in A.D.43?
2. When were the Western Heights scheduled as an Ancient Monument?
3. What was the Rate of Portage in 1823 for shipping a mule to France?
4. When did the first regular horse-drawn passenger and mail coaches run between London and Dover?
5. Thomas Longley, landlord of the 'Star Inn' in Church Street, Dover, died in 1904. He was known as the heaviest man in England. How much, in pounds, did he weigh?
6. What was the present Granville Dock called in the 19th century?
7. What was the name of the thoroughfare which was replaced by Connaught Road?
8. In the year 1914 what name was given to the air-raid siren at the Dover Electricity Works?
9. Who had Blodwit, Fledwit and Mundbryce, among other privileges?
10. What novel was Dickens writing when he stayed at 10 Camden Crescent?
11. Which Emperor and Empress landed at Dover on 16th April 1855?
12. In what year did the Town Council decide to inaugurate a complete system of sewage?
13. Where did Hubert de Burgh live?
14. (a) In which year was the Guildhall erected in the Market Square?
(b) When was it demolished?
15. What is the subject of a painting purchased by the Town Council in 1589?
16. Who murdered Edward Adolphus Walsh in 1868?

The Dover Society's Fifth Birthday

The Dover Society has completed five years and has accomplished much in that time. At the inaugural meeting on 25th April 1988 in the Menzies Hall, Mr Peter Johnson, Vice-President, reminded those present that the college lay within the precincts of the ancient Priory of St. Martin, one of the great monastic establishments of the 12th century and that some of the original buildings were still in use by the college..

Perhaps it is appropriate, therefore, that the most recent of the Society's projects to be completed, at the end of our fifth year, should have been the completion of the work on St. Martin's Leopard Bollards, a full account of which appears elsewhere in this issue.

Over the five years the Society has participated in numerous projects with many successful outcomes. Our centre pages in this issue commemorate some of them. A full list is as follows:

DOVER SOCIETY PROJECTS

Orchid Hunt Survey with the White Cliffs Countryside Project – April 1990.
Operation 'Tidy 90' with Dover Cadets and the Dover District Council – March 1990.

Tree Planting at Temple well – Winter 1990.

Lydden Pond Restoration Starts – March 1991

River Dour Clean-up at Charlton Green with Dover Cadets and Dover District Council – March 1991.

Empty Shop-window Display – Spring/Summer 1991.

Lydden Pond Environment Week with Lydden School – May 1991.

National Tree Week, Young Tree Management Weekend – December 1991.

Lydden Pond Puddling with help from the White Cliffs Countryside Project – February 1992.

Environment week Clean-up with Dover Cadets and Dover District Council – May 1992

Dover Pageant Participation – Society Druids, Society Tent – May 1992

National Tree Week Wood Management Weekend – December 1992.

Victorian Leopard Bollard Restoration Project – Spring 1993

PROJECTS: 1990 – 1993



1991 River Dour clean-up at Charlton. Our Chairman supervises!



1992 Promotional Stand with helpers at Lydden Fête



1990 Operation "Tidy 90"



1993 Joe Harman, Barry Late and John Owen refurbishing the "Leopard Bollards" at top of Connaught Road



1990 Western Heights Orchid Hunt with Kirk Alexander, White Cliffs Countryside Project Manager



1990 Award winning Louseyberry Wood Tree Planting Project. M.P. David Shaw and Mrs Shaw with Temple Ewell School children



1992 The Society's hospitality tent and the "workers" at Dover Pageant, Connaught Park



1991 Society members form cleaning party prior to promotional display in unoccupied shop in the Market Square



1992 Society members and White Cliffs Countryside volunteers puddling straw and clay to re-line Lydden Pond

Memories of Old Dover

IN A MUDDLE

By

Edith May Keeler née Muddle

I WAS BORN IN JUNE 1914 – Mum always said to me “You were born on 29th June and the war broke out on 4th August”. The First World War, of course.

I was christened Edith May, but to family and friends I was Dinah – it seems that the midwife said, “Here’s your Dinah” when she gave me to Mum, so the name stuck. We lived in Manor Road – the Maxton area of Dover. I was the youngest of five – two brothers and two sisters. We were surrounded by hills so spent a lot of time on them. Although we didn’t have much money we were a happy family.

The tradespeople came around the streets with horse sand carts, there were not many motors about then. I remember the milkman came from Hougham, a few miles away. He had a two wheel trap and horse. He had several milk churns on his cart and we took our jugs to buy what milk we needed – it was about 1½d a pint.

The old coinage then was 4 farthings or 2 half-pennies = 1 penny (1d), 12d = 1 shilling (1s), 20s = 1 pound (note), a florin = 2s, half-a-crown = 2s6d.

I also remember the coalman with lots of bags of coal on his cart – everybody had coal fires and it cost about 2s for 1cwt. Then, of course, bread and green-grocery was delivered, also groceries and meat. We had several little shops near us which sold nearly everything and we had a Post Office.

We had lots of stews, meat puddings and vegetables for dinner and home-made jam and brown sugar on our bread for tea, also home-baked buns.

I don’t remember much about the war – only when Dad came home from France when it ended. He was like a stranger to me, but he loved children and we were soon great pals. He had been in the Labour Battalion digging trenches, he wasn’t fit to go into the Infantry as he had a lame leg. His right ankle had been broken in two places when he was working on the breakwater, the bones would not knit together so had to be wired. Mum said he was in and out of hospital for nearly a year and they had to postpone their wedding for a year.

I started at Belgrave Infant School when I was five years old, I remember the big coal fire in the winter, with a guard around it and big brown curtains to separate the classrooms. There was a big bell outside the school and the boys took it in turn to pull the rope to call the children in to class.

I was seven years old when I started at St. Martin’s Primary School. Miss Prescott was my first teacher and I loved her – we had thick sheets of brown paper marked off in inches and pink counters to learn our first sums.

I was an average pupil but very shy – my best subjects were composition and drawing – in one of the older classes we had a subject – describing Spring as a young woman – my imagination really ran wild, writing about a beautiful young girl with flowing hair – her feet barely touching the ground and her finger-tips changing the bare branches to green. It must have been good for the headmistress read it aloud to the class. >

I was in the top class when I left school at fourteen years old. If you were a very bright pupil you could take a scholarship and if you passed go on to Grammar School.

Dad was working on the Railway, he was a Marine Dock Porter and his wage about £2 weekly – I remember going to the shop for him when it was pay day for 1/2oz Hearts of Oak tobacco and a packet of A.G. cigarette papers (it was cheaper to roll your own) and I could keep the change, one penny farthing – what an assortment of sweets you could buy for that amount.

While I was still at school I painted a picture in a competition, it was on the children's page in Mum's weekly paperback called *Christian Novels* – it was of two children sitting in front of the fire and was called 'Faces in the firelight', so I painted a rosy glow over their faces and clothes and to my delight I won 10 shillings, 1st prize. I remember Mum cutting the results piece out of the book the following week and keeping it until it dropped to pieces – 1st prize, 10s had been awarded to Edith Muddle of Dover.

I had hoped to do something interesting when I began to work, like trimming hats or dressmaking, but I started work as a nursemaid or mother's help to the local butcher's wife. They had two little girls – one eight years old and a baby of eight months. It was a busy life, I learned all the household duties and went out a lot with the baby. I also had the loan of an old hand sewing machine and I enjoyed making frocks for the girls and myself. I worked there for seven years, I took the girls to pantomime at the old Hippodrome in Snargate Street and went to the cinema every Wednesday when it was my half-day off.

The trams were very handy, they started from the tram sheds which were next to the Orange Tree public house and it only cost 1d to go the Worthington Street. Admission to the cinema was 4d and sweets 2d for 1/4lb, so I looked forward to my weekly treat. I was in my teens when the talking films came to the screen, I think 'Laugh CLOWN Laugh' was the first one I saw and I thought it was wonderful.

I remember as a teenager going with several of my friends to the Market Square to see the old year out, there was a crowd of people already there – very jolly and excited. Then when the church clock struck midnight, it was so quiet. Then the bells began ringing and we all grabbed hands and danced around singing Auld Lang Syne, everyone was so friendly and happy, them walking home in the moonlight shouting to each other "Happy New Year".

We had a regatta day in August when the sea front would be full of stalls and people – I think the rowing club had a competition to see who kept afloat the longest, they would pelt each other with flour and soot. My sister and I were walking along one particular Regatta and we met up with a fellow we knew and his pal Jim – they walked home with us and that began my friendship with Jim – we were married three years later.

We were married in June 1938 and the Second World War began the following year – 3rd September 1939. Jim worked in the tunnel being made in the cliff at East Cliff. He had already registered for war service and was waiting for his age group, when his call-up papers came. I think he was glad to get out in the fresh air, it must have been very hard for him as he was a born gardener. >

He went to Belfast, Ireland to join his ship (a minelayer) called the *Southern Prince* and he was in the navy for 4 years.

Dover was called Hell Fire Corner in the war and we had more than our share of bombs, etc. When the German troops got as far as the French coast they shelled us frequently and it was the sea that saved us again. Many schools and children were evacuated to Wales and at one time mothers with young children were advised to have a case packed with clothes and a blanket ready in case Dover had to be evacuated.

We all had an Anderson shelter in the garden, it was made of corrugated iron and bolted together to form a little room. A big hole was dug in the garden and the shelter erected, then covered with earth. They saved many people's lives. I packed up many times and took Michael (our

young son) to Bexleyheath where my sister lived, but when the flying bombs, or Doodle Bugs as we called them, started coming over on the way to London I came back to Dover again.

The war had lasted six years when it finally ended. We had two little sons and longed for a quiet life together. Jim came home on the 4th November 1945 and we had a bonfire and fireworks in the garden the next day, we were so happy.

Jim started work on the Railway as a Shunter and we tried to make up for lost time – taking the children out as much as possible. Evert fine Sunday in the summer we would go over the hills to Shakespeare Beach. My brother and his wife and family lived next door to us and we made a happy crowd going up the hill with beach gear, picnic and a primus stove. ◇

Deadline for CONTRIBUTORS

The Editor welcomes contributions and illustrations, particularly line drawings, or other appropriate visual materials.

The deadline for issue No. 18 for publication on 1st December is 31st October. The producer would much prefer "copy" to be typed but, in any case, asks that it be double-spaced. Single spacing, especially in manuscript is a frequent source of typesetting error, the more so when one is stressed by a heavy work load.

Publication in the *Newsletter* does not imply the Society's agreement with the views expressed and the Society accepts no responsibility for any statements made.

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WORLD-WIDE DOVERS ————— BUDGE ADAMS

The leaflet reproduced on the following page whilst being self-explanatory does show how I am going about a project that might well be of interest to members. I have recently discovered that there is in America a League of Mayors, with headquarters or offices in Minneapolis/St. Paul and from that League I hope to obtain the names and addresses of the Mayors concerned. In the meantime I have written to all those whose addresses I know of.

WORLD-WIDE DOVERS

There are towns or cities named "Dover", or with some connection with the name, in the following states or countries:

United States of America	Arkansas - 72837	Midway Little Rock-Fort Smith
	N Carolina - 28526	75m NE of Wilmington
	Delaware - 19902	55m ESE of Baltimore
	Florida - 33527	7m NE of Tampa
	Idaho - 83825	†
	Georgia - 30424	50m NW of Savannah
	Illinois - 61323	†
	Kansas - 66420	†
	Kentucky - 41034	40m SE of Cincinnati
	Massachusetts - 02030	55m SW of Boston
	Minnesota - 55929	18m ESE of Rochester
	Missouri - 64022	†
	New Hampshire - *	60m N of Boston
	New Jersey - *	32m WNW of New York
	Ohio - 44622	60m almost due S of Cleveland
	Oklahoma - 73734	40m NW of Oklahoma
	Pennsylvania - 17315	†
	Tennessee - 37058	60m NW of Nashville
South Australia	Municipal (?) District of Adelaide,	southerly
Australia	Tasmania	30m SW of Hobart
South Africa	Orange Free State (?)	60m SSW of Johannesburg
U.S.A.	<i>Dover Canyon</i>	California-92679 †
	<i>Dover Foxcroft</i>	Maine - * 30m NW of Bangor
	<i>Dover Plains</i>	New York-12522 18m E of Poughkeepsie
	<i>Dover Furnace</i>	New York - * 10m S of Dover Plains
Denmark	<i>Dover Kirke</i>	Jylland (Jutland?) 6m SW of Arhus
Australia	<i>Dover Point</i>	W Australia coast of Great Australian Bight nearest town: Eyre
	* <i>Zipp Code not known, can anyone help?</i>	5-600m E of Perth and
	† <i>Map location not known, can anyone help?</i>	45m W of Eyre

On behalf of the Society, and with a small measure of success, attempts are being made to contact the Mayor or chief citizen of these places with the intention that any interesting items or information that may result from the correspondence should be published in future issues of the *Newsletter*, if possible on a regular basis.

Letters to the Editor

1 Castlemount Court
Castlemount Road
Dover
11.6.93

The Editor
The Newsletter

With a membership of 400, a splendid committee and a magazine second to none, the Dover Society really seems to have a voice worth hearing in the district.

Among this very strong membership there must be quite a few who would welcome the opportunity of expressing opinions on the various issues before our committee make decisions and put out press releases. Unfortunately, we ourselves missed the meeting during which we understand groups of members discussed current issues. In future perhaps part of our meeting times could be allocated for something like this on a regular basis.

Other members may like to comment.

HARRY & JUNE DYER

Several members have commented on the increased number of references to the Society in the local press. Members who wish to express views to the committee at any time on any current issue may write to the Editor of the Newsletter, or to the Secretary, Leo Wright, or, in the case of planning issues, to Lawrence Gage, Chairman of the Planning Sub-committee. Any crucial points raised by members could then be discussed at the next committee meeting. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. In addition the Editor is always pleased to receive members' letters on local issues for publication in the next issue of the Newsletter. Ed.

From Gavin Wright,
Group Manager,
Dover/Deal Group,
Arts & Libraries Department, K.C.C.

6th July 1993

MAISON DIEU HOUSE:- DOVER LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS 1993/94

Those Dover Society Members who use the library will know that, although an attractive building (dated 1665), Maison Dieu House has many problems to do with the limited space for services, notably the fact that all the lending services are on the first floor, up those very steep stairs!

For many years it was my belief that Dover needed a new purpose-built library but more recently we have been working on plans to capitalise on the existing building with its many interesting features and excellent site. I am pleased to say that I have recently heard that we now have planning permission to improve the foyer and to install a lift to the first floor.

We will also be taking the opportunity to refurbish the lending library and although we cannot *make* space (would that we could!) I feel we will be able to re-arrange services more logically and attractively. I am hoping the work will be carried out in the autumn of this year and, very naturally, we will ensure that the refurbishment is sympathetic to the building, which is listed Grade 2*.

If any Dover Society member would like further information, do please contact me on (0304) 372984.

GAVIN WRIGHT, *Group Manager*

54 Cleveland Terrace
Nelson
New Zealand, 7001
6th July 1993

The Editor
The Dover Society Newsletter.

Dear Merrill,
I have just received the interesting April Newsletter, No. 16, and am particularly interested in the Open Letter from Ivan Green.

The idea that Dover District should become a borough, with a non-political, respected local citizen as mayor, who would be seen as the real leader of the people, and have a limited period in office, is indeed a way in which the community can become a cohesive self-reliant entity, in its own right.

Parish Councils constituted from viable local communities would form the link between individual citizens and the administrative functions of the borough, "furnishing the minds of citizens with information on public affairs to enable them to rightly exercise the duties of Citizenship." (J. Bavington-Jones, 1916, *Annals of Dover*. p 273.)

The idea of an assembly for the people in a public place to meet the new mayor would contribute to the close relationship of the local people to their respected, eminently suitable, apolitical, worthwhile leader and chief citizen.

The essential element is in the maintenance of values as an inspiring and unifying force, generated by centuries of traditional wisdom with the ability to adjust to changing social and environmental needs, without either rigid adherence to the past or following "modernistic" crazes – both of which could severely damage our future, our land, our borough, our county, and our country. Necessary adjustments and changes – whether social, political, economic, industrial, etc. – should not be permitted to disrupt or destroy the sense of community and trust which has developed over the centuries.

Therefore we need to preserve and protect what we have, and also to develop and improve what we need. Both aspects require a sense of personal and community responsibility.

With best wishes to all members of the Dover Society, and to all Dovorians.

Sincerely,
Marion L. Griffin (Mrs)
Membership No. 451

Into the Third Millennium – Any Ideas?

An extract from a recent letter from the Under Secretary of State at the Department of National Heritage, Ian Sprout, to the Chairman of the Planning Sub-committee:

"The proposed Millennium Commission will be established by the National Lottery Bill, currently going through the House of Lords . . . it will receive one fifth of the new proceeds from the proposed National Lottery and will consist of nine members appointed by the Queen . . . The Commission will make its own decisions on funding entirely independent of the Government.

The Commission will fund projects to mark the year 2000 and the beginning of the third millennium, projects which will last well into the new century as a celebration of the best of the old. We hope that the Commission will be established very soon after the Lottery Bill receives Royal Assent, and will seek ideas for possible projects to fund shortly after that."

The Dover Society would like to promote a major project and raise the status of the town – possibly something that could enhance and make better use of the Western Heights. If members have any ideas, the Committee would be delighted to hear them.

Never to be seen again.

The slipway in the Wellington Dock with the last ship to be 'slipped', the Admiral Day, the Board's dredger.

The Western Docks development plan will change the whole of this area and the slipway will disappear.



Photo:

Joe Harman

CRUISE LINERS are now calling regularly at Dover. May saw the arrival and departure of several ships; two Costa Line ships, the *Enrico Costa* (Italian flag 16,729 GRT) from Genoa to the Norwegian Fjords and the *Daphne* (Liberian flag 9,436 GRT) from Genoa to Iceland. June saw the arrival of Cunard's *Vistafjord* (24,116 GRT) from Barcelona sailing on a Baltic cruise. It was interesting to see the two DHB tugs dressed overall for the occasion. The *Vistafjord* was due back on 27th June, then to depart on another cruise to the Baltic, Iceland and North Cape. The *Daphne* was also calling back at Dover to begin another cruise to Iceland and Amsterdam and the passengers embarking and disembarking received red-carpet treatment from the Dover Harbour Board.

Lately, an interesting little ship to be seen regularly on the Dover waterfront is the Crawley-owned bunkering tanker *Aqueduct*, busily going about the task of fuelling deep-sea ships that call at Dover.

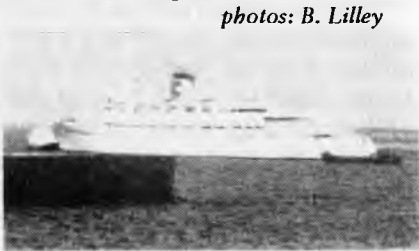
May saw the last use of the slipway in the Wellington Dock, soon to be changed out of all recognition by the new Harbour development plans. *See caption to picture above.*

SHIPPING NEWS

left: The Vistafjord.

below: The Daphne

photos: B. Lilley



Dover Festival 1993

THE 2ND DOVER FESTIVAL was held from 24th May until 5th June 1993. As they did for the first Festival, held the previous year, the planning team organised a good programme of events, which included classical music, jazz, workshops, walks, talks, exhibitions and a wide choice of children's events both in and out of school.

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Dover Society members attended many of the events and, once again, the *Newsletter* contains a selection of the reviews sent in by some of them, starting with the opening concert of the Brandenburg Chamber Orchestra on Monday, 24th May. I would have liked to include more reviews to give a truer picture of the wide-ranging activities of the Festival, but, obviously it is impossible to obtain a review of every event. However, Philomena Kennedy's illustrations of the workshops of Cas Holmes, the pavement Picasso exhibition and the African group, Zuriya, give additional flavour to the overall picture of the Festival that we have tried to present.

Last year we commented on the fact that sadly, many of the excellent Festival concerts attracted only moderate-sized audiences, whereas the quality of the performances merited packed halls. This was thought to be partly due to the fact that there was no convenient booking office in Dover. In 1993 this situation was remedied, with a permanent booking office at the side of the Maison Dieu, yet, once again, attendances for many of the events were disappointing.

The Dover Society Committee, concerned that the Festival should continue as an annual feature on the Dover calendar, has been discussing with the Festival committee, ways in which Festival publicity might be extended and improved to attract larger audiences.

EDITOR

Celebration Concert
The Brandenburg Chamber Orchestra
Connaught Hall : Monday 24th May

Jack Woolford

THE DOVER SOCIETY was very well represented at this brilliant start to the Second Dover Festival, taking it as a compliment that the precedent set by their successful Primavera and Kent Chamber Orchestra concerts were followed, and even capped, by the Festival organisers: The Brandenburg Orchestra has full woodwind and brass sections in addition to strings. This was made possible by the munificent sponsorship of GOPAK Ltd which Dover District Council's Donna Sowerby happily secured.

The programme, which perhaps surprisingly, even regrettably, did not include a Brandenburg Concerto, was safely popular, every note of which every professional player must have played a score, if not a hundred, times. This, however, did not show. Every piece was played as though freshly minted, by an orchestra every member of which was conspicuously enjoying the task. A pity that Connaught Hall seating (and platform) cannot be raked: apart from the strings, all we could see was the tympanist: but his wind and brass colleagues were audibly, if not visibly, as euphoric as he!

Although popular (in the best sense), the programme was adroitly constructed, starting with classical Mozart, leaping forward to romantic Mendelssohn and further on to equally romantic Fauré but joyously returning to classical early Beethoven.

Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* is for strings only, so that we could savour in detail the precise balance and disciplined enthusiasm of violins, cellos and double basses, the more so as the repeats were observed and excessive vibrato was properly absent. We could also be amazed and then dazzled by conductor Martin Handley's alternately towering and crouching, athletic, almost balletic, extraction of every nuance of phrasing and dynamics.

Accompanied by the full orchestra, Gina McCormack, in an elegant green gown, gave us an exquisitely youthful, at once technically flawless and passionate, performance of the Mendelssohn violin concerto, which however often heard, astounds with its revolutionary freshness, lyricism and virtuosity. When one hears it recorded or broadcast, the technicians may have made the violin more dominant and although it was permissible to wonder if the soloist was sometimes a little overbalanced by the

wind, what we heard was rapturously played and tumultuously applauded. Miss McCormack should have been presented with a bouquet!

The Fauré Pavane whose haunting sorrow was movingly created by the solo clarinetist, was as sinuously moulded by Martin Handley as the Mendelssohn. The violently contrasted middle string section emphasised the brilliance of the unnamed Leader of the orchestra (in fact John Georgiadis of LPO fame!).

The climax was Beethoven's 1st Symphony which anticipated much of his revolutionary majesty despite its obviously Haydnesque derivation. It was played with properly enthusiastic verve and gusto, not to say brio, a festive prelude to what should be a fine Festival.

Grumps? The preliminary programming might profitably have been more specific and the programme might have named the players and the leader. The Connaught Hall could have been fuller, both in the reserved and unreserved seats: the Dover Festival is for Dorsetians rather than tourists though the enhancement of image is relevant to popularity. Dover District Council's White Cliffs Country project is well-conceived and its publicity has greatly improved for this second year. One can only breathlessly anticipate the glories of the third!

SAX APPEAL

IRIS PETERS

WE ARRIVED at Dover Town Hall in good time for the Festival of Dover 'Sax Appeal' Jazz Concert to the cosy arrangement of chairs and tables scattered around, each with a red table cloth (albeit paper) creating a pleasant atmosphere.

Unfortunately the Group were delayed by traffic on the M20 – and no doubt also on the Folkestone Road! – giving us a late start.

Meanwhile to entertain us James Overton (DDC Tourism) gave us an impromptu and amusing account of how, when and what to do with each raffle prize if we were fortunate enough to win. It was quite a feat to fill-in half an hour with witty waffle! Having arrived the Group lost no time in 'doing what comes naturally' – jazzing it up.

My favourite in the first half was 'Rio', composed by Victor Feldman, featuring a flute solo by Pete Long (baritone sax). I could almost visualise the Rio carnival.

Through to the second half and 'Longshore Drift' composed by Derek Nash, who was the leader and composed most of the numbers; we drifted nicely along with the tide to be jolted into the lively number 'Wasps'. We then had a change of tempo with the blues 'Sniffy'. This was the general tenor of the evening with some apparent impromptu juggling by Simon Hale and Lawrence Cottle. Each member of the group gave excellent solos and their energy and enthusiasm was so contagious as to inspire Nash into his own enthusiastic and brilliant performances.

'Sax Appeal' certainly gave us all a splendid evening of jazz to remember.

24th May – 5th June

1066 AND ALL THAT. . . .

MAY JONES

THE COACH pulled out of Pencester Road punctually at 9 a.m. on Saturday, 29th May for the Festival of Dover trip to Hastings and Battle. Despite a rather doubtful forecast the weather turned out to be ideal, with warm sunshine, good light and excellent visibility – an excursion-planner's dream.

Once we had wound our way round Rye and negotiated the Winchelsea hairpin bend, the pleasant woods and orchards of the rolling Sussex countryside came into view and village homes and gardens, often with banks of rhododendrons, lined the road to the outskirts of Hastings. An easy drive along Marine Parade led us to the approach to the steep slope up to the West Hill and the castle. From here there is a superb bird's eye view of the Old Town nestling in the Bourne Valley with East Hill beyond, the harbour, beach and amusements, parts of Hastings and St. Leonard's, and, of course, the pier, spread out like a map below.

Hastings Corporation, owners of the castle since 1951, have provided explanatory notices on the ruined walls and those of the Collegiate Church of St. Mary. An excellent audio-visual presentation, viewed in a suitable auditorium, instructs the visitor in back-



ground history of the town and the Norman invasion. It vividly sets out Hastings' early importance as a port and the rival claims of William of Normandy, Harold Hadrada of Norway and Harold of England to the English throne. It certainly helps one to appreciate the speed and stamina of Harold and his armies in forced marches, first north to vanquish his Viking adversary at Stamford Bridge on 25th September and then south within eighteen days to meet William, who had crossed the Channel with the first fair wind.

24th May – 5th June



After watching the presentation we were free to explore the site, look across the ditch to the tournament ground known as the Ladies' Parlour and imagine the wider view before 1287, when half the castle enclosure, including the keep, slipped away into the sea after a violent storm. Maybe we visualised the prefabricated wooden fort thrown up by the Normans on their arrival in England to control the hill overlooking the fort. (So the English post-World War II bungalows were not the first pre-fabs, after all!!)

After these glimpses of Hastings' eleventh century history, we left the coach among the sea-front attractions and repaired to our chosen eating places, many members doubtless enjoying a fish meal with some locally-caught delicacy, others choosing to stroll through the well-kept Old Town.

All Saints Street, with its many dark, timbered buildings and white, cream, or pink paint is still home to most of the fishermen who work on the dozen boats still plying from Hastings harbour, currently disputing the E.C. reduction in the number of days they may sail. No. 125 All Saints Street, with its black timbers, sloping floors and lattice windows boast a sign that it "was built about the fifteenth century and was reputedly the residence of ye mother of Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell". Modern houses opposite, with black doors and timber panelling, fit sympathetically into their surroundings. Next to the Stag Inn numerous steps lead up to the Tackleway and the groups of homes such as Starr's Cottages perched on the valley side, while across the Bourne (a modern road following the course of the early stream and water supply) the High Street has tempting second-hand book shops, local businesses such as Judge's Bakery and a restful memorial garden on the site of the Swan Inn. Numbers 1 – 3 of Swan Terrace were destroyed by enemy action on 23rd May 1943. Across the adjacent side road and above the main street is St. Clements' Church, one of two built to serve the area. A plaque marks the position of "the great SEAGATE erected circa 1385".

Time for a hasty postcard or two on the seafront and we were all back on the coach being carried the eight miles to Battle, the actual site of the 1066 encounter.

The little town had been invaded by cheery groups of Roundheads and Cavaliers in readiness for a re-enactment of the battle the following day. They mingled with tourists walking the Battlefield Site and Abbey Ruins, studying the neat English Heritage signs and table models, possibly a little disappointed, like the rest of us, to find that some sections are accessible only during the summer when Battle Abbey School pupils are on holiday. Good English Heritage publications (supported and sponsored by Gateway Foodmarkets Ltd.!) were, however, available at reasonable prices for study on site, or at one's leisure afterwards.

Being free to make our own time schedule, some people lingered in the sunshine or explored the High Street before entering Buckley's "Yesterday's World." Originally only a single shop front, "Yesterday's World" grew to its present form some eighteen months ago and is still expanding. It houses a fascinating collection of memorabilia, in twelve shops and other rooms typical of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Many have push-button commentaries. A realistic model of Queen Victoria talks of events during her reign. We could, if we wished, reminisce about the 'Rapid-line' system of supplying change in department stores, discuss the hardships of Victorian laundrymaids or housemaids, or enthuse about early photography. Whatever our particular interests we all hurried to catch the approaching steam train at a Southern Railway station, before emerging onto the terrace for a delicious and generous cream tea with unlimited cups of the "drink that cheers but not inebriates."

Our driver, choosing a different route for the journey back, used a quiet road beside the Royal Military Canal to Appledore and then, striking out across the marsh with its field after field of sheep, picked up the A259 coast road home from New Romney.



It was a most successful trip, thoroughly enjoyed by all for its historical interest, for the opportunity to widen one's circle of acquaintances and for the pleasure of a much-enhanced view of the countryside from the vantage point of our comfortable coach seats. We are greatly indebted to our Social secretary, Joan Liggett, for her excellent choice and planning for the excursion. ◊

Reminiscence Workshop

MERRIL LILLEY

A SERIES of THREE REMINISCENCE WORKSHOPS on the theme of Summer Holidays and the Seaside were organised by Dover Library staff and held during the two weeks of Dover Festival. They were led by Sharon Turrell, Senior Librarian of Services to Elderly People and Marilyn Donovan of Dover Library Household Bound Service, who had run this kind of activity in other residential homes.

I joined Marilyn Donovan's Workshop at Whitfield Rest Home on Friday, 28th May. To spark off memories of days at the seaside Marilyn had a hamper of treasures, pictures borrowed from Dover Library Local Studies Centre, old postcards, including saucy ones, beautiful shells and pieces of fossilised rock, toys, beachwear and souvenirs. Objects and postcards could be passed from hand to hand and a group of residents talked about their memories of the seaside, not just Dover's beach, but many other remembered beaches.. Dovorians talked of swimming in the Harbour, of ships putting in to the Promenade Pier, of day trips to France. Other residents talked of Folkestone, Ramsgate, Broadstairs, Leigh-on-Sea and St. Leonards. There was talk of lights along the promenade, barrows selling things, the market in the Market Square on Saturdays, fishing expeditions, skimming flat pebbles on the sea, collecting shells and winkles, and playing games.

At an hour everyone was surprised how quickly the time had passed. One of the group, Mr Muddle, who had lived in Dover all his life, kindly produced a piece of writing from his sister's memories of her childhood and life here and later agreed to this being included in our series of "Memories of Old Dover". (*This issue, page 90*)



24th May - 5th June

Music for Two Kings

GAVIN WRIGHT

I FELT THAT THE STONE HALL in DOVER TOWN HALL provided a perfect setting for this concert of music from the sixteenth century Courts of England France. Although I am reliably informed that the pennants and flags which hang from the walls in this part of the building date only from the early years of the nineteenth century, they seemed to lend an air of pageantry to the whole evening, quite in keeping with the style of music.

The evening, although forming part of the 1993 Dover Festival, was also part of "Music & Ramparts", Europe's only true Cross-channel Arts Festival with concerts featuring international artists in Boulogne and East Kent.

The first part of the evening comprised a selection of sixteenth century masses and other choral works, performed by the Rochester Cathedral Choir. From where I was seated towards the back of the hall, the lovely voices of the choristers carried remarkably well – indeed it was said that the Stone Hall had better acoustics for this form of music that had many churches and cathedrals.

The second part of the evening comprised lively music from banquets, and several pieces attributed to Henry VIII himself. Half of the works were performed by Musica Antiqua of London, and the others by members of the Ensemble Metamorphoses de Paris. Both groups combined a selection of musical instruments from the period with vocalists.

It was fascinating to witness the different styles of performance – very English and very French, a reminder, perhaps, that despite our increasing links with the continent our national cultures remain very distinct. Altogether a memorable evening.



Maison Dieu Hall.

Music for Two Kings. 29 May.

A few of the men & boys of the Choir of Rochester Cathedral.

The Norman Invasion – No Mere Consolation

SHEILA COPE

BECAUSE the piano recital by Annette Servadei was cancelled owing to lack of support we attended instead an excellent talk with slides given by Professor Richard Eales from Kent University. Disappointment turned to delight as we became aware that we were listening to a specialist in early mediæval history telling us about the Norman Invasion, a topic related to the Society's recent visit to Hastings and to the subsequent exhibition at Castle Fine Arts Studio.

AFTER THE BATTLE of Hastings William showed recognition of Kent's strategic importance by marching east from Hastings to Dover, Sandwich and Canterbury and thence via Rochester through North Kent. He circled London on the west and finally approached it from the north. It seems that the story of William negotiating passage through the county in return for the granting of certain freedoms was a legend developed retrospectively in the 13th century. William appointed Odo, his half-brother and Bishop of Bayeux, commander of the royal armies in the area. Delegation through sworn oath of allegiance was the only means of maintaining power. In Kent 50% of land was held by the Church, leaving little scope for greedy barons and Odo began a steady take-over of his Earldom. He commissioned the Bayeux tapestry, made in England, as a "strip-cartoon" propaganda tool. On the temporal side Anglo-Saxons were quickly supplanted by Normans but as far as the Church was concerned, Saxon incumbents were only replaced as they died out. William had wisely arranged his own coronation by the Anglo-Saxon Archbishop of York on Christmas Day 1066. From the ecclesiastical viewpoint a Norman king was preferable to anarchy. Norman influence spread slowly from London; Carlisle was not subdued until 1092.

Domesday Book, basically a landlord's document which takes account of tax-paying men, shows that rent-payers were concentrated in the fertile areas of North and East Kent, while the total population of the area is estimated at 100,000. This was a time of settlement. The Weald was gradually cleared for cultivation and Romney Marsh was drained. Thanet was still separated from the mainland by a channel 150 yards wide. Norman classification indicates that there were slaves in addition to villeins and smallholders. Gradually there was intermarriage, Norman and Saxon names appeared within the same families and French words were adopted. Parishes developed.

Dover, already charged, as were the other Cinque Ports, to provide ships for the king, had flourished under Edward. The population numbered two- to three-thousand, quite large in view of the problems of bringing in daily supplies from the surrounding countryside. William had wanted to accept Dover's surrender but his army sacked the town first. William compensated the inhabitants to secure their loyalty and twenty years later Dover was more prosperous than ever; the value of land had increased by 30%. In spite of problems for shipping caused by a mill at the harbour entrance the port continued to benefit from an increase in cross-channel traffic.

24th May – 5th June

"In Search of the Templars"

LEO WRIGHT

NOT UNSUNG, but perhaps not spectacular, among the events of the Festival were the Guided Walks.

For example, thirty-two people assembled at the "George and Dragon", Temple Ewell, on the evening of Thursday, 27th May, to be led by Kirk Alexander "In Search of the Templars".

We were quickly reminded that, as in the town, Dover's long history is mostly buried and, at Temple Farm, only the buried foundations of a thirteenth century Templar barn remain. But the history of the area was fascinatingly revealed to us as Kirk Alexander recounted his detective work among the flora.

In the first "not very old" sunken path we were introduced to cow parsley, garlic and the Mediterranean (Roman introduced) blackseed. High up, on the Down where the chalk grassland (Kirk's great love) is beginning to reassert itself, we followed a "very ancient" hollow way and paused to identify salad burnet, milkwort, horseshoe vetch, quaking grass and rock roses.

The nearer we got to the top, approaching the recently extended nature reserve, the more the true ancient chalk grassland asserted itself.

From the top, although it was a misty evening, we were able to follow Kirk Alexander's deductions of how the landscape would have looked around Domesday time. Scotland Common would surely have been open common. The river would have been very much larger. The Dover Society's dear Lousyberry Wood would not have been there. Indeed there is no wood shown on the Ordnance Survey of 1805. On the other hand sunken tracks and hedges are very ancient and unchanging.

On the way down the sunken track we identified stitchwort and sanicle growing under half-a-dozen species of hedgerow trees and shrubs.

En route the edible plants had been tasted and we had learnt a new way of looking at the countryside: not with the eye of the landscape artist nor of the geographer-geologist but rather as an ecological historian.

This very enjoyable walk was just more of the good work of Alexander Kirk and the White Cliffs Countryside Project.

24th May - 5th June

ENGLAND'S HERITAGE

at Castle Fine Arts Studio in Castle Street

PHILOMENA KENNEDY

THIS SMALL EXHIBITION concentrated on three aspects of our heritage. First was a magnificent facsimile volume of the Kent portion of Domesday Book. A matching volume contains the translation and a map plots the locations mentioned in Domesday over a modern Ordnance Survey map. They are fascinating documents.

The second part was the exhibition of two engravings printed from the superb 18th century copper plates and carefully hand-coloured. The engravings were originally commissioned by the Society of Antiquaries in order to reproduce the two famous paintings 'Embarkation of Henry VIII at Dover 1529' and 'Le champs de drap d'or' ('The Field of Cloth of Gold'), which are in the Royal Collection. A video showed some of the great technical and aesthetic abilities required in the inking-up and printing of the huge plates, the handling of wet paper 31 x 53 inches in size, and the hand-painting. One print takes a trained painter a full hour to colour.

A selection of photographs, of local subjects, from the famous studio of Francis Frith formed the third section of this show.

The enjoyment of this exhibition was enhanced by Deborah Colam's extensive knowledge of the interesting exhibits in her Studio.

England's Heritage Exhibition

JEAN JONES

ARARE TREAT awaited photographic enthusiasts who visited 'England's Heritage Exhibition' at Castle Fine Arts Studio, as part of the exhibition was devoted to a display of original photographic prints from the Francis Frith Foundation.

In 1860 Frith set out from his studio in Reigate to make a topographical record of every town and village in the British Isles. Whilst he never achieved his ambition during his lifetime, his company continued working to his brief until the middle of the 1960's.

The photographs in this exhibition spanned the years between 1880 and 1924 and showed classic and less well-known views of towns in the vicinity. Some particularly delightful views of the seafront at Dover showed the long gone Promenade Pier with figures of the period strolling by.

cont.>

24th May - 5th June

Folkestone, Hythe, Sandwich, Walmer and Kingsdown were also featured and for those familiar with Deal, a unique record of the ruins of Sandown Castle were taken in 1906 and washed away by the sea soon afterwards.

Also on display in this exhibition a fine three-volume facsimile of the Domesday Book, printed to celebrate its 900th anniversary and two spectacular copperplate engravings in full colour showing 'The Field of Cloth of Gold' and 'The Embarkation of Henry VIII at Dover', engraved in 1774 and 1781 respectively by James Basire. Each plate took two years to execute and they are possibly the largest of their kind ever to be produced.

The Snowdown Way & Monty Sunshine

KEN WRAIGHT

SOME 150 – 200 PEOPLE were at the Town Hall on Wednesday 26th May to hear the SNOWDOWN C.W. MALE VOICE CHOIR AND THE SNOWDOWN C.W. BAND in a very pleasing concert of varied music.

The choir under the baton of their professional conductor, Stephen Portman from the U.S.A., delighted the audience with spirited renditions of 'Nothing like a Dame' and 'Milligan's Musketeers', the difficult 'Ching a Ring Chair' by Copland through to the stirring 'Never Walk Alone' – all excellently accompanied by Gillian Greenacre.

The Band gave an enthusiastic performance under their jovial conductor, Terrence Green, with some interesting cornet, euphonium and tuba solos and contributed to a very enjoyable evening.



ON THURSDAY 4th June the Astor Theatre, Deal was host to MONTY SUNSHINE and friends for a splendid night of Traditional and Mainstream Jazz presented by Arty Promotions.

This veteran musician still conjures up that special feel of the 1950s and 60s Jazz Clubs. A crowd of some 120 people sat around candle-lit tables in this slightly run-down building which all added to the authenticity of the occasion.

Fitting, perhaps, that during the evening notices should have been circulated inviting support for a new Jazz Club in Deal. If this was a sample of what can be done then I, for one, hope the venture succeeds.

A thoroughly worthwhile evenings entertainment.

24th May – 5th June

THE TEDDY-BEARS' PICNIC

ZENIA GRAVES

The Teddy Bears' Picnic and other events were held at Kearsney Abbey from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, 21st May.

Children played on the Bouncing Castle all day. Train rides, Postman Pat, Uncle Mike's Walk-about, the Punch and Judy Show, Uncle Mike's Magic Show and the Frog Puppet Show were all enjoyed by children and adults.

The Trenty Folk Group, wearing Teddy Bear heads, entertained the crowds until it was time for the Teddy Bear's Rally. The Rally attracted teddy bears of all shapes and sizes. There were prizes for small teddies, large teddies, unusual teddies, best dressed teddies. The smallest teddies were earrings worn by an elderly lady. Adults with video-cameras abounded.

Another popular attraction was the Ramsgate Model Boats, many of them piloted by teddy bears. I liked the paddle steamer playing music to its 100 passengers; the landing craft and trailer and the coast guard model. The model, of the Bay Cruiser, was made by a boy when he was thirteen years old. All the parts were in working order, including seven separate lights and a small radio. I particularly liked the fisherman reading a one-and-a half inch Adscene paper. His sandwiches still looked good enough to eat!

Looking at the model boats brought back memories for me of my brother Jim making models and floating them at the Abbey.

Unfortunately the cold, windy weather drove away some of the crowd earlier than last year and the only places which were always packed were the café and the ice-cream parlour.

24th May - 5th June

THE UNIVERSITY OF THIRD AGE WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRY U3A

The Dover, Deal and Sandwich branch of the U3A was inaugurated during 1993. The aim of the U3A is the advancement of education for middle-aged and older people who are no longer in full-time employment. Courses have been arranged in:

LOCAL HISTORY - EXPLORING BRITAIN - ENGLISH LITERATURE - PLAY READING

INTERMEDIATE GERMAN - FRENCH CONVERSATION - APPRECIATION OF ART

SIMPLE MUSIC COMPOSITION - FLOWER ARRANGING - NEEDLECRAFT

Other courses are being developed ready for introduction in September.

People may join the U3A (£10) and meet the course leaders at Deal Library, 8th Sept, 2 - 4 p.m.. There is a small fee for each course, depending on the costs of running it. Alternatively intending members may enrol with Membership Secretary, Helen Ormiston, The Garden Flat, Oakmead, Marine Rd, Walmere. 0304 360643 or with Courses Secretary, Pat Grant, Branscombe, Upper St., Kingsdown, Deal. 0304 363991.

TRADITIONS:

The Dover Festival Exhibition at Dover Museum

Philomena Kennedy

This interesting & exciting exhibition showed work, by artists & craftspeople working in the SE, which included textile wall-hangings, quilts, weaving, calligraphy, wood-carved & inlaid, ceramics, silver, silk braids, wrought iron, furniture, a ring & hollow-cast sculpture set beside much older items from the Museum collection. The work, in my opinion, varied from the outstandingly good to the mediocre. When asked to write a review I decided to point out some of the exhibits which I found particularly impressive or interesting.

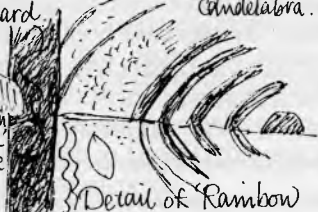


Sketch of small part of Diana Springall's gorgeous wall-hanging entitled 'Cyclamens'. Hand-patchwork in silk, in pinks, greens, blue, cream. 245 x 202 cm.



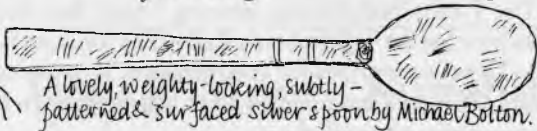
Thrown vessel by Peter Beard.

Alex Summers, whose calligraphy is well-known locally & to be seen in the Museum also showed an interesting collection of the tools of his trade: cuttlefish, quills, gum sandarac, gold leaf, scalpel, nematocite burnisher, Chinese stick, inks, etc.



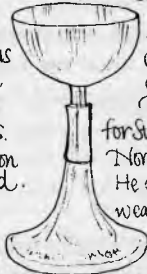
Detail of 'Rainbow'

Fish Banner Gold, red, blues, yellows, painted with collage & machine embroidery on paper by Cas Holmes; interesting experimental work...



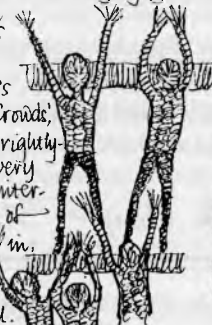
A lovely, weighty-looking, subtly-patterned & surfaced silver spoon by Michael Bolton.

Detail of Marion Edwards' meticulous silk braid, made using traditional Japanese methods. Dark blue & crimson on silver-grey ground.

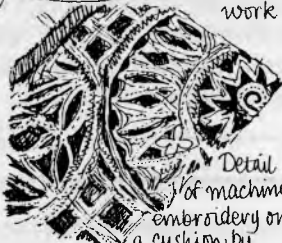


A very fine silver chalice designed and made by Paul Harrison for St. Augustine's Church, Northbourne, Kent. He also showed weather-vanes & mixed material commissioned work.

A small Section of Tadek Bentlich's 'Cheering Crowds', a lively, brightly coloured, very personal interpretation of weaving & in, I think, wool & sisal.



Martin Reeves showed an attractive wrought iron chandelabra.



Detail of machine embroidery on a cushion by

Lorna Moffat. Lorna exhibited richly-textured and layered silks, often using the 'mola' technique in which sections are cut away to reveal the various colours beneath. A friend & I much enjoyed her demonstration session.

Trefor Bayliss (a member of the staff of the Museum) showed a technically impressive hollow-cast sculpture of a horse. During the exhibition it was interesting to see him working on a precise model of the Pharos.

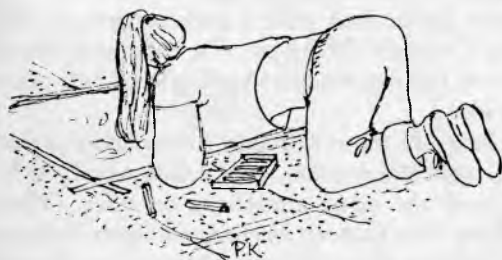
Philomena Kennedy

I AM GRATEFUL to Philomena for the collection of drawings she made during her visits to many of the events that formed the Festival of Dover and for allowing me to 'sprinkle' them over the pages of this *Newsletter*. Her drawings were a regular feature of early *Newsletters*, and it is a privilege to have the opportunity to reproduce so many.

Recently Philomena has up-dated her WALK AROUND DOVER by the addition of four pages of notes as an amendment to the text. Reading these necessary alterations, one is reminded of how much has changed in Dover since 1988.

Another recent venture of Philomena's is the production of several 'quote' cards of Dover and Deal. These delightful cards come in several different colours, most of them with an illustration appropriate to the quotation. The centres are blank so they may be used as notelets or greeting cards.

EDITOR



Pavement Picasso
5 June '93



A REPORT

by

DONNA SOWERBY

Arts and Events Manager, Dover District Council

THE SECOND FESTIVAL of Dover was once again jointly organised by Dover District Council's Tourism and Economic Development Department and Kent County Council's Arts and Libraries Department. During the two week period more than eighty events were staged in Dover and the surrounding areas with an experimental selection in Deal.

This annual arts celebration attracted over 10,000 people of all ages, of which over 6,000 attended the concerts, workshops, Teddy Bears Picnic and the educational package.

The main object of the project is to enhance the quality of life for local people and also for visitors to the area. It gives an opportunity to take the arts out to the community, for instance to schools and homes for the elderly. The Dover Society has set the wheels in motion with many artistic events, and the Festival continues to assist in creating a new cultural identity for the White Cliffs Country by offering a range of art forms for everyone. Our aim is to work with public and private sector organisations with which we have valuable partnerships, built up over the last few years.

The composition of the programme reflected the commitment of the Festival committee to offer – at a reasonable price – a wide range of high quality arts events, environmental activities, curriculum-related arts workshops and community projects. Workshops in schools, residential homes, libraries and in the open air formed over 40% of the Festival programme, with musical and literary activities accounting for 15% each. Dance was a new art form introduced for 1993 and the Folk and Authentic Jazz covered 6% of the programme, with walks 8% and visual art 9%.

The Festival was launched at Dover Town Hall with a gala concert by the internationally-acclaimed Brandenburg Chamber Orchestra. To encourage local residents to enjoy this performance, Dover District residents were offered half-price tickets, which appeared to be under-utilised.

The most popular event was the Teddy Bears' Picnic at Kearsney Abbey and this free event was also the favourite for 1992. Despite the weather, over 2,000 people, 38% younger than twelve years of age, enjoyed the many attractions on offer. Other successful activities included the Snowdown Way Concert by the Snowdown Colliery Welfare Band and Male Voice Choir, the Jazz ensemble - Sax Appeal, Joe Bloggs Fashion Show at Images Nightclub, Origami Workshops and the Jazz Dance Workshop with the Jiving Lindy Hoppers, which was a sell-out.

>

Due to unforeseen circumstances, a literary talk was postponed as was the British Heart Foundation concert. The worsening situation in Croatia also meant the cancellation of the Croatian Artistes. A selection of quality events had low attendance figures including the Hand/Dupre Classical Guitarists, the literary evening with author Pamela Oldfield, the Harpist and Soprano Concert and the Folk Dance evening.

Analysis of the responses to the market research questionnaire show that 60% of those attending this years Festival were new patrons, 70% of those interviewed described the events as good value for money and 7% thought they were average. 60% of those attending the Festival were from the White Cliffs Country area and 33% from other areas in Kent.

For concerts and other higher-profile events the largest age group attending was the 60+ (41%) with the 31-45 age bracket the second largest.

For the Teddy Bears' Picnic 38% of the audience were children under 12, with 24% of those attending being in the 31-45 age group.

The Festival of Dover is now an important feature of the annual events diary and has achieved many of the aims set by the Festival Committee and the overall Dover District Council Arts Strategy. It is hoped that each year, by utilising the analysis undertaken and the lessons learned in previous years, the Festival will gradually increase in stature and popularity and become a major event in the National Festival calendar.



24th May - 5th June



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

Compiled by Anne Mole

**ALUMINIUM FOIL and
WASHED BOTTLE TOPS**
Oxfam, 41 High Street

BAGS (CLEAN: OF ANY KIND)
Sense (Help for Deaf/Blind)
40 High Street

BEADS
Hospice Shop, 75 London Road
RSPCA, 46 London Road
Sense, 40 High Street
Spastics Shop, 17 Market Square

BUTTONS
Hospice Shop, 75 London Road
RSPCA, 46 London Road
Spastic's Shop, 17 Market Square

CARPETS
Sense, 40 High Street

DRINKS CANS
KARE (St. Margaret's)

FOREIGN COINS
Hospice Shop, 75 London Road
Oxfam, 41 High Street

GLASS
Camden Crescent Car Park
Leo's Supermarket, Charlton

Green
Maison Dieu Car Park
Stembrook Car Park
Tesco's Car Park, Whitfield

JEWELLERY: RSPCA, 46 London Rd.

MAGAZINES: RSPCA, 46 London Rd.

For Further information on **Re-Cycling:**
Ring Mike McFarnell on
821199 Ext. 5002

PAPER

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

Mr Ivor Disbrey, 852532 (home)
Collected from houses in village, every third Saturday in month.

PAPER BANKS in DOVER

Camden Crescent Car Park
Crabble Recreation Ground
Leo's Supermarket, Charlton Green
Maison Dieu Car Park
Priory Station Car Park
Tesco's Car Park, Whitfield
Whitfield Parish Hall Car Park

POSTCARDS

Hospice Shop, 75 London Road

STAMPS

Hospice Shop, 75 London Road
Oxfam, 41 High Street
RSPCA, 46 London Road
Spastic's Shop, 17 Market Square

**GOOD CLEAN CLOTHES,
BRIC-A-BRAC, BOOKS, etc.**
Welcomed at most charity shops

CONTACTS:- at shops unless shown otherwise.

K.A.R.E. Mr & Mrs P. Woodward
23 Royston Gardens,
St. Margaret-at-Cliffe

HOSPICE SHOP: Mrs Walsh

OXFAM: Mrs Joan Pursey

RSPCA: Mrs Flowers:

SENSE: Audrey Merralls

SPASTICS' SHOP: Mrs Danvers
0634 578954

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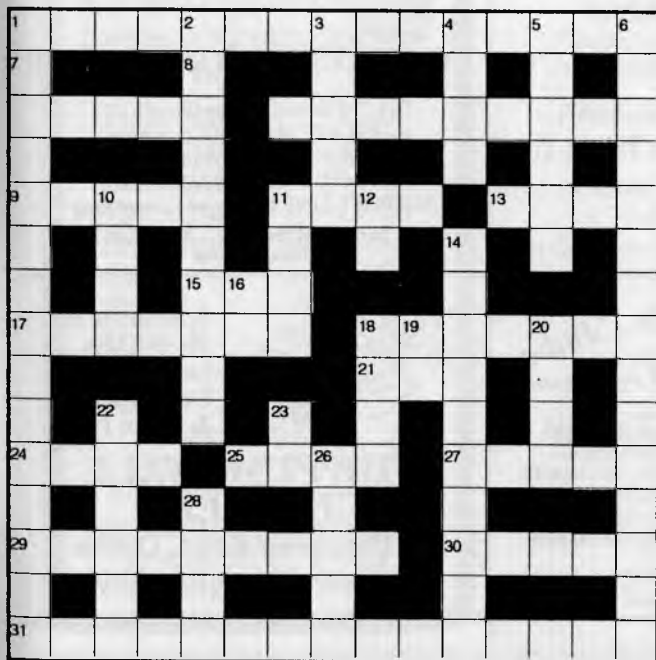
CROSSWORD — No. 9

Clues—Across

- 1 Dover is one of these, 5,6,4
2 In the midst of, 5
8 To change from one language to another, 9
9 Intended, 5
11 To exhibit or an exhibition, 4

- 13 Offers the highest odds on a roulette board, 4
15 Over poetic, 3
17 To nourish or bring up, 7
18 More illustrious, 7
21 Also, 3
24 Middy, 4

- 25 Clean area of the North Sea, 4
27 Pertaining to Athens or Athenian writers, 5
28 Next door – Singular Australian soap, 9
30 To send out, 5
31 Time of the Norman Conquest, 8,7



Clues—Down

- 1 Highway care, apparently on every road out of Dover, 4, 11
2 The Pharos was a Roman one, 10
3 Compass point, 5
4 Leisure, 4
5 Spoke loftily, 6
6 Five years old in April, 1993, 3, 5, 7
10 Declare positively, 4
11 Positive, 4
12 Order of Merit, 1, 1
13 The ceremony at which degrees are conferred, 10
19 Senior Service, 1, 1
18 Nasty cut, 4
20 Restrict food intake, 4
22 Observe, 6
23 Motoring organisation, 1, 1
26 Opposite of 3, 5
28 Footwear, 4

1	W	O	R	T	H		4	R	5	A	M	6	S	G	7	A	T	8	E
	A		A		I		9	C		S		A		D		V			
	T		10	T	I	G	E	R		11	H	I	N	D	I		E		
	E		A		H		A		F		D		S		N				
12	R	A	F	M	A	N	S	T	O	N		13	T	H	A	T			
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	T		N		A		E		S			L		R		O			
29	H	E	A	D	L	E	S	S				30	L	I	N	E	N		

Solution
to
Crossword
Puzzle
No. 8.

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If Renewal, MEMBERSHIP No. please

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ADDRESS

.....

2nd NAME if Joint Member

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I/We agree to abide by the Constitution of the Dover Society.

Signed Date

(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: Individually – £4 annually. Joint Membership – £6 annually.
Note: Annual Subscriptions become due on 1st April.

Please make cheques payable to the Dover Society and forward to the Membership Secretary;
Mrs 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 organisations would you note them, please?

.....

.....

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

.....

.....

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PROGRAMME

SEPTEMBER 18

Saturday 8 a.m.
Members and Guests

TRIP TO BOULOGNE

Foot passengers on Ferry from Eastern Docks
Application form with this issue

OCTOBER 25

Monday 7.30
Members and Guests

THE FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Four interesting representative speakers
St. Marys Parish Centre
Parking at Stembrook

NOVEMBER 24

Wednesday 7.30
Members and Guests

CONUNDRUMS AND CONVIVIALITY

Dover Museum
Refreshments included in entrance fee
More details later
Parking at Stembrook

DECEMBER 11

Saturday 7.30
Members and Guests

CHRISTMAS FEAST

Dover College Refectory
More details in the Autumn Newsflash

1994

JANUARY 24

Monday 7.30
Members and Guests

TWO TALKS ON DIFFERENT TOPICS

St Marys Parish Centre
Details later
Parking at Stembrook

FEBRUARY 21

Monday 7.30
Members and Guests

WINE AND WISDOM

St. Mary's Parish Centre
Parking at Stembrook

MARCH 21

Monday 7.30
Members only

MEMBERS' MEETING

St. Mary's Parish Centre
Parking at Stembrook

APRIL 25

Monday 7.30
Members only

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St. Mary's Parish Centre
Parking at Stembrook

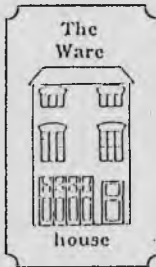


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