

The
Dover
Society

Newsletter

No. 56

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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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The Objectives of the Dover Society

founded in 1988.

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

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

All members receive three Newsletters a year and in each year the Committee organises about ten interesting events – talks, tours, visits, Members' Meetings and usually a Christmas Feast.

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

Editorial

On 10th April 2006, the Dover Society held its Annual General Meeting at St. Mary's Parish Centre with once again an excellent turnout of members in attendance. The format of the meetings has now been changed with only the chairman and the treasurer to report to the meeting thus making it more streamlined.

The speaker after the interval was Martyn Webster who gave the members a fascinating insight into the Steber family and their travels that started with a clock.

Included in this issue are reports of the March meeting and two very different subjects; Brian Madderson talking about bananas and David Irons on the history of the Iron and Crundall families.

Three new reporters have submitted reports in this edition; Madeleine Mee and Jane Francis on the May outing to Wakehurst Place, while Denise Lee has written about the trip to Bewl Water. Well done to all three for the excellent stories, may there be many more to come. The report of the July trip to Kensington Palace will be in the next newsletter. With no outing in August, the next trip will be in September. The destination has changed to that published in the last newsletter. Instead of France the outing will be to Bruges in Belgium, included will be a tour of a brewery in the morning followed by lunch with the afternoon as time to either shop or explore the town, whatever takes your fancy. Please book up at the earliest opportunity as the September outings that take us over the Channel are always a popular choice with the members. The Christmas feast is still in the planning stage so if you know of any entertainment that you think may be suitable please contact Joan Liggett on 01304 214886 or speak with the editor.

We are always on the lookout for helpers with the society projects, you can do as little or as much as you like. They are always friendly gatherings as you can see in the photograph of



the group at Cowgate celebrating yet another one of Jack Woolford's birthdays. So do come along you will be made most welcome, although I cannot guarantee a birthday every time.

Enclosed with your newsletter is a booking form for Bruges, the Christmas Feast and an order form for Christmas

cards. This is first time the society will be publishing cards and as you will see from the advert over the page, they are a set of four old views of Dover. They are in colour and are about the same size as the cover of the newsletter.

Many thanks to all our regular contributors and all those who have sent in just one or two items, all are gratefully received and any photographs and original documents will be returned to the owner. If you would like to write something for the newsletter do not worry to much about the grammar as all articles are sent to very discrete proof readers before they are published. Some of the most popular with our readers seem to be people's stories of their upbringing of what life was like in days gone by.

Editor

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DEADLINE for contributions

The last date for the receipt of copy for issue 57 will be Wednesday 11th October 2006. The Editor welcomes contributions and interesting drawings or photographs. 'Paper copy' should be typed at double spacing. Handwritten copy should be clear with wide line spacing. Accurate fully proof-read copy on computer discs is acceptable; please ring 01304 213668 to discuss details.

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MARCH MEETING

A Fruity Route

A talk by Brian Madderson - Reported by Terry Sutton

EAT MORE BANANAS - it's good for Dover, our members were told at the March meeting held at St Mary's Parish Centre.

The suggestion was made by guest speaker Brian Madderson, managing director of George Hammond PLC whose team of stevedores discharge bananas, pineapples and melons from refrigerated ships at Dover's Eastern Docks.

Mr Madderson, in his excellent talk, said more than two BILLION bananas were expected to be offloaded at Dover's single deep sea berth at the cargo terminal this year. Dover is the third busiest fruit port in the UK, he explained.

Mr Madderson joined Hammond in May 1989 with the first task of researching the market opportunities for fresh produce handling at Dover at a time when the existing inner docks were proving too small for the larger refrigerated ships carrying fruit. Dover Harbour Board invested £6 million on a new import complex at the Eastern Docks while Hammond invested a further £1 million.



George Hammond plc. Eastern Docks, Dover



"More bananas"

Mr Madderson proved his expert knowledge about bananas, telling us how and where they are grown, cleaned, packed and exported to Europe and the UK in refrigerated (reefer) ships maintained at a temperature of 13-14° C during the voyage.

The largest sources of bananas were now Costa Rica followed by Cameroon and the Dominican Republic. Bananas, he explained, fruited all the year round so they provided a regular trade in imports at Dover.

Dover was a popular port for the shippers because it was the nearest UK dock to the English Channel shipping lanes, it has a non-tidal and deep water terminal, expertise and efficiency of the Dover stevedores and excellent motorway links to the major fruit ripening centres at Dartford and Paddock Wood.

In the questions following, Mr Madderson claimed that if the port authority could provided a second deep sea berth for the freezer ships, such was the demand by importers, more ships would be attracted to Dover creating more jobs.

— The Iron & Crundall Families of Dover —

A talk by David Iron - Reported by Alan Lee

DAVID IRON STARTED with an apology stating that he was not qualified to talk about the Harbour, but about people so he would concentrate on the very personal story of the Iron and Crundall families.

After a brief personal introduction he proceeded with a very well researched family history. This placed both families at the centre of the story a century ago when Dover was at the height of its relative economic wealth.

There were a number of John Irons starting with the first back in 1744. The second was born in 1775; he joined the Royal Navy, fought at the Battle of Trafalgar



John Irons and family, 1911



Four of the Irons family, Dover Esplanade, 1900

and became a Channel Pilot. Eventually he became the Harbour Master at Dover and during this time he saw an improved harbour entrance, inner harbour, Wellington Dock and the initial Admiralty Pier. Upon his death in 1867 he was buried in Cowgate cemetery.

On John's retirement in 1860 his son Richard took over as Harbour Master, a position he held for the next 22 years overseeing the work on the Granville Dock.

In 1898 another John Iron took over as the Harbour Master and he retired after 40 years in control. In his time he saw many developments; the completion of the Prince of Wales Pier, the Eastern Arm and the Breakwater which was built for the Royal Navy. The Marine Station, the widening of the Admiralty Pier and the Train Ferry Dock were all finished. He was a friend of the Kaiser and in WWI was the Admiralty Salvage Officer. On his death he had a Buckland Church burial.

Douglas Iron 1893 - 1983 was present when Bleriot landed and joined the Royal Flying Corp becoming one of the first pilots trained in WWI. During WWII he carried out pilot training, was awarded the CBE, became an Air Commodore and on retirement moved to Herefordshire. Clive Iron 1896 - 1985 also saw Bleriot and joined the Royal Navy Flying Corps. Later he worked with the Bank of England then ran a coffee plantation in India. He moved to London when he retired.

One of the interesting ladies in the family was Agnes Irons 1897 - 1981 she lived at 3 Maison Dieu Road for all of her life and was a practising Buddhist.

David then moved on to the Crundall side of the family who were also a well known and prominent local family. Henry 1856 - 1941 was a timber merchant and a cousin of Sir William Albert Crundall, a banker in South Africa.

The most well known member of the family Sir William Crundall 1846 - 1934 was a Member of Parliament, the Chairman of Dover Harbour Board and 13 times Mayor of Dover. He owned a large timber and coal merchants and played a large part in the redevelopment of Dover - see previous edition of the newsletter for a more in-depth story. There is also a display about him in the Town Museum.

These two families were linked more closely when (Frederick) John Iron 1895 - 1975 married his first cousin Dorothy Crundall 1893 - 1972.



Henry Crundell and family

The talk was very well illustrated with over fifty slides showing various local scenes and family members. Many thanks go to David for his fascinating insight into his family history.

* * * * *

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Summer 2006

Our present membership is 457 and by the time you read this report virtually all subscriptions should have been gathered in. We have a record number of new members this time. Thanks are due to our editor who has enrolled several work colleagues. They are particularly welcome as our average age profile is thereby reduced which bodes well for the future of the Society.

Our former editor, Merril Lilley, who also recruited many members when in post, has now moved house. We wish Merril and Bruce contentment in their new home.

We welcome:-

Mr E Bates, Ms G Burgess, Mr D Tanner, Mr B & Mrs E Fincham, Mr P Fargher, Mr C Harpham, Mrs B & Mr R Boyer, Mr D & Mrs J Circuit, Mrs B Roberts, Mrs C Huntley, Mr C Friend, Mrs P Fuller, Mr P Cunningham, Mrs G Burrows.

Sheila Cope, Membership Secretary

———— *The Chairman's Report* ————

———— **Annual General Meeting** ————

———— *of the Dover Society, 2006* ————

by Derek Leach

Your Executive keeps members up to date via the Newsletter and so only a brief review of the past 12 months activities is necessary, although it conceals considerable activity.

Planning matters

The Planning Committee, under its enthusiastic chairman Jack Woolford, has been showered as usual for comment upon initiatives, plans and strategies for the South East, for Kent and for Dover District. All seem to agree upon the need locally to strengthen and diversify the economy, more jobs, the extension of the high speed rail link to Dover, upgrading the railway station, dualling of the A2 and putting an end to traffic gridlock in Townwall Street and beyond. We wait patiently for some action.

DHB plans to build, at its own expense, an additional dock exit road and for a buffer zone (lorry holding area) between Dover and Capel to ease congestion in the docks and in Townwall Street have been cautiously welcomed. Recently we have been dazzled by the DHB's development proposals at the Western Docks to cope with the expected doubling of freight traffic over the next 30 years. We await more details but in the meantime we are raising various concerns.

We are still waiting for redevelopment of the Buckland Paper Mill site and for progress on plans for the St. James' redevelopment area, including the controversial Asda superstore. At long last Netto is converting the Co-op site for its own use and four other retail outlets. Phase

2 of the White Cliffs Business Park has also come to life with B&Q the likely anchor store.

A substantial expansion of Whitfield is threatened as a consequence of the government's demands for many more houses in the South East. Whilst DDC favoured up to 8,000 new houses in the District by 2020, the county council is recommending 6,000. Currently, there are some 500 empty houses and 50 empty shops. We believe that job creation to be an essential precursor to any substantial increase in housing.

Conversion of many of Dover's older properties into flats continues unabated despite objections and we await an improvement of the Crabble Hill/River junction sought by The Dover Society.

Thank you Jack and your committee for your sterling efforts throughout the year.

Social/educational programme

As always Joan Liggett produced a varied and interesting summer programme including trips to Chartwell, Chatham Dockyard and St. Omer - to improve our French, of course. She also arranged what many thought was our best Christmas Feast yet. If you have not been then you are missing something! Our winter programme of speakers' topics, arranged as

ever by Jack Woolford, have ranged from Captain Cook and Hubert de Burgh to the Future of Kent and Bananas - not forgetting another highly successful wine and wisdom evening.

Our sincere thanks are due to Joan and Jack and the team that prepares this hall and organises the refreshments. The evening raffle is part of our tradition. After many years Sheila Cope laid down the burden of organising the raffle, but Adeline Reidy has proven to be a worthy successor. Thank you both. Sheila remains our efficient membership secretary, which is no mean feat with over 440 members.



Jeremy and Denise looking for a raffle winner

Joan Liggett has given notice that she will retire as social secretary at the end of 2006 and we need a replacement to work alongside her for a few months before going solo. Please consider yourself for this rewarding job and also sign up for this summer's programme of outings.

I hope that you are finding our new lapel microphone an improvement.

Newsletter

Our excellent Newsletter contributes significantly to the reputation of The Dover Society. Following the retirement of our editor, Merril Lilley, Alan Lee, her replacement, took over the reins very quickly and has maintained the high standard set by Merril. The Newsletter would be nothing without reports and

articles by members, so thank you Alan and all the contributors. Neither should I forget to thank the unsung heroes who stuff the Newsletters into envelopes and the distributors who act as postmen. We are still without an advertising manager. Advertising income helps considerably with the cost of the Newsletter and we do need somebody urgently for this task. Please see me this evening if you can help.

Website

An activity easily overlooked is the work of Mike McFarnell, our website manager, who makes the work of The Dover Society available to the whole world via the internet. Thank you Mike.

Projects

Some of our projects are long term and others are quite short. Sometimes what we expect to be a short sprint turns into a marathon!

Our Cowgate Cemetery maintenance team is there for the long haul. The whole cemetery has been cleared and now 'only' requires maintenance. The fortnightly work parties show no signs of flagging and you should feel their biceps! Thank you Jeremy Cope and co... The plotting and recording of the gravestones was completed last year and the records handed over to Dover District Council and the Museum. In addition the Kent Family History Society has made the information freely available on microfiche. Ian Merton, Lesley and Hughie Gordon did a grand job.

Another long haul has been putting all Budge Adams' slides of Dover onto the Dover Museum database. All 2000 slides with supporting text are now on the system after several years of effort by Bob Hollingsbee, Julia and Peter Burville and myself.

Jeremy Cope represents us on the River Dour Steering Group set up to

improve this valuable facility. I think that it is fair to say that without the considerable input by Jeremy the Group would have made little progress. Having been bogged down for over a year with constitutional problems, it was Jeremy who led the way out of the maze and now we are seeing real progress with clearly established roles for all the participants, riverside walk signs, training for volunteers and ten initial projects funded by the Environment Agency. Once again, thank you Jeremy.

A project that was bogged down for many months was the plan to plant trees in the pedestrian precinct to soften the townscape. Having quickly raised over £1000 from members and receiving a grant of £1500 from the town council, funding was not a problem. The two big problems were underground services and CCTV cameras. These were eventually overcome, although we had to accept trees in planters rather than in the ground. By now, the ten trees should be in place. Thank you Jack and your planning committee for your perseverance.

A new initiative last year was The Dover Society encouraging owners of five historic properties to open them last September during national Heritage Open Days and coordinating the publicity. I hope to repeat it this year and to add the Admiralty Pier Gun Turret, although this is dependent upon finding sufficient voluntary stewards. Again, please see me if you can spare a few hours.

The campaign to demolish Burlington House was boosted by Sheila and Jeremy Cope assisted by Mike McFarnell entering this eyesore as a contender for Channel 4's demolition programme. Whilst the need to demolish was not in doubt, Channel 4 decided to leave it to the St. James' redevelopment scheme to achieve. Once again, we wait patiently!

With the centenary of Bleriot's historic flight in 1909, the Society is lobbying to make something of this, but first improvement is necessary at the Bleriot Memorial and access to it. We await a meeting with English Heritage that owns the site. With the closure of Connaught Barracks we are also concerned about the future of the historic Fort Burgoyne.

Finally, another new venture for the Society which we shall trial later this year is a Society Christmas card, using images of old Dover from Budge Adams' collection.

Grants

Your Executive has also given away some money during the year to further the aims of the Society. We have offered £250 toward the cost of publishing the report of the 1996 Townwall Street archaeological dig by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust. With the Roman Painted House in dire straits financially, we have also offered £300 to the Trustees and we have shown our support for the international Bronze Age Boat Conference in Dover in October by donating £200 toward the cost.

Chairman

As your Chairman I have represented the Society during the past twelve months at the installation of the new Lord Warden, the moving Zeebrugge ceremonies on St. George's Day, the Mayor making and recently at the final parade of the Parachute Regiment.

This concludes my report on behalf of the Executive whom I should like to thank for all their efforts during the past year and particularly Merril Lilley and Lesley Gordon who are not standing for re-election.

Perhaps I can also thank at this point our treasurer, Mike Weston, for his meticulous book-keeping, before he presents his financial report.

The Dover Society

An extract from the Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2006

The following extract from our accounts represents the statement of financial activities and the balance sheet. The supporting notes to the accounts are not reproduced due to lack of space. However the complete accounts are available for inspection upon request to our treasurer Capt. Mike Weston (telephone 01304 202059) or E-mail (mike@weston71.freemove.co.uk).

	2006	2005
CURRENT ASSETS		
Society Badges	49	57
Newsletter Binders	124	151
Debtors and Prepayments	0	20
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>22406</u>	<u>18107</u>
	22579	18335
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	(-1622)	(-1178)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>20957</u>	<u>17157</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>£20.957</u>	<u>£17.157</u>
FUNDS	<u>£20.957</u>	<u>£17.157</u>

The Society's Funds are represented by;

The General Fund	12506
Rolls Memorial Fund	50
Projects Fund	3367
Publication Fund	5034
	<u>£20.957</u>

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2006

	General Fund 2006	General Fund 2005
INCOME		
Subscriptions	2484	2480
Donations	107	157
Social Events	306	657
Gift Aid attracted by Subs etc to General Fund	590	0
Bank Account Interest	570	611
TOTAL INCOME	4237	3905
EXPENDITURE		
Members and meeting expenses	-131	-114
Administrative expenses	806	832
Purchase of lapel microphone	700	0
Newsletter expenses	1062	1191
Other items (including donations)	950	884
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3387	2793
NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES	850	1112
Total Funds Brought Forward	11657	10544
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>£12.506</u>	<u>£11.656</u>

Capt M.H. Weston

20 Year Research began with a Clock

A talk by Martyn Webster - Reported by Terry Sutton

The intriguing story about how a burglary in a Dover shop led to the diaspora of a local family was told at the annual meeting of The Dover Society in April. Martyn Webster, a Dover-born Immigration Officer living in Brighton, related to the meeting why members of the Steber clock-making family came to Dover, traded in the town and eventually emigrated to the USA. He also explained that his 20-year research into the Steber family began because of his family ownership of a Steber-made long case clock.

John Steber (born about 1778) from Bavaria arrived in England with a German mercenary regiment and, during the Napoleonic Wars, in 1805 was stationed among the garrison of Dover Castle. Demobbed from the army John Steber settled in Dover and opened a clock-making shop at 11 Cannon Street. For some reason, possibly illness, he hanged himself, aged 40, from a bedpost at his Cannon Street home and was buried in St Mary's churchyard in 1819.

John Steber left a widow and 10 children, the eldest being David, who continued the business. David was born in Barbados while his father John was serving there in the British army. Tragedy struck in the evening of September 27th in 1830 when a thief used a diamond to cut open the shop window to steal gold and silver watches and jewellery, resulting in David Steber being made bankrupt.

An enforced auction by Dover estate agents Tersons at their Snargate Street mart included two "excellent" eight-day clocks and other items along with 250 gross of fashionable buttons. As a result of this David Steber, by now a Freeman of Dover, with help from French relations, emigrated to the USA where, in 1835, he applied for American citizenship. A year later he was in business as a watch and clock maker.

Mr Webster told how David, married three times, moved from place to place and ended up in Jamestown, Texas. The wealthy David and Elizabeth Steber began laying out streets in the town and sold lots for building purposes. The 1860 Texas census listed David, aged 61, as a farmer. His wife Elizabeth was a year older. In 1867 the Stebers donated two acres for a Methodist Church. Then came the civil war and the freeing of David's workforce, causing his virtual bankruptcy this was compounded by the construction of the railroad that bypassed Jamestown and turned it into a ghost town.

Elizabeth died in 1863 and David was drowned on 18 December 1869 at Demopolis, Alabama after falling into the river from a packet ship while on his way from Mobile to visit his sister Henrietta Warren in Tuscaloosa. At that time, virtually penniless, he was living in Mobile with his son, a steamboat engineer.

Mr Webster added that all the family descendants of the Steber family he had located, today either live in Alabama or New South Wales, Australia where they were engaged in the manufacture of fishing boats.



Some of the Steber family

SOCIETY PROJECTS

Report by Jeremy Cope

COWGATE CEMETERY

They say that no news is good news, and that for the moment describes our project of maintaining the cemetery. The weather has been its usual self, kind to us. We have been working away strimming the paths and keeping the worst of the hogweed and brambles in check. It's becoming more of a routine but as any gardener knows you can be quickly overwhelmed, so that we are not complacent.

Have you read the editorial? If so you may have noticed a photograph of our group cheering young Jack Woolford and celebrating his 89th birthday with a glass of champagne. Jack rakes up the mowings for a couple of hours and is a most regular attendee. Could working at Cowgate be something of an "elixir of life"?

Remember that if you are nearby with a few minutes to spare do take a walk around the cemetery.

THE RIVER DOUR

My report is brief this time but there has been action. Along with society members Peter Hargraves, John Mavin and Sue Mills, I have joined the White Cliffs Countryside Project's rubbish clearance working parties, held once a month. The working parties are well organised by Julie Thompsett and properly equipped. What a delight to get on with working on the river rather than talking. We have worked on various stretches including the B&Q lake and Pencester Gardens. The lake in particular looks very much better helped by the Environment Agency's work to direct the river flow. The rushes and other vegetation look remarkably well

and confirm my firm belief that what is of prime importance is to keep the river clear of litter, a task that will always need doing.

The Agency is to spend some £60,000 on ten projects to enhance the river. The latest news on the timing is that work will start at the end of July once bird nesting is over. I shall be most interested to see the results. I am not expecting large changes, rather a gentling of the river to make it softer and more natural (as far as one can in an urban environment). If the B&Q lake is anything to go by then this will be a very positive step forward.

The work of the

PLANNING

Sub-Committee

Report by

JACK WOOLFORD, Chairman

Dover Museum concedes that the façade of the old Labour Exchange at 10 Union Street does indeed display Green Men, but Dover District Council says that to preserve it the whole building would have to be listed Grade II, a long, debatable, expensive and chancy affair. Watch this space (again!) for our decision.

As to Dover Harbour Board's 30 Year Plan which is based on the assumption that freight will double again in the next 30 years, as it has done in the last 30 - we have pointed out the many imponderables involved and have put down some

ZEEBRUGGE DAY CEREMONY 2006



Derek Leach laying the Dover Society wreath at the Zeebrugge Day Ceremony on St George's Day

markers: retention of the Wellington Dock, perhaps as a fresh water reservoir for the Dour; conservation of the Customs Watch Tower and what remains of the North and South Piers if Granville Dock and Tidal Basin are infilled; public access to the Prince of Wales Pier and Shakespeare Beach; public access to the beach and bathing water if the Marina should be resited alongside the Prince of Wales Pier. We have accepted the need for a "buffer zone" (lorry park?) on the A20 between Dover and Folkestone, but await the precise location in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Anything to cut traffic gridlock.

Long-awaited supermarket Netto, with its three other shops, is actually materializing and we are told to expect that St James will follow within a year and that the Buckland Mill and B&Q projects are still alive. Shakespeare Tunnel may yet be speeded up, and there is even a rumour

that the bus station will be relocated to the Discovery Centre. Another rumour that the Dover in Bloom planters would, because of the water shortage, be replaced by windsocks or kites and the hanging baskets filled with artificial flowers was happily vetoed by Dover's Town and Environment Committee. Whether or not the Maison Dieu House pigeons should be culled or coned by recorded hawk squawks remains to be decided.

The Society has protested against N T Rix Scaffolding's application for retrospective planning consent for a decade or more's breaches of planning regulations. In the interests of employment there may well be a compromise, with stringent conditions attached. The location of the skate park, now in Pencerster Gardens, which is to be enlarged and modernized, remains in dispute between the Town and District Councils. Dover continues to be exciting.



Dover Music Society

June Concert Review

by G N Harby

We are very fortunate in Dover to be in the presence of so many gifted musicians. The Concert that occurred in the Dover Town Hall on Saturday 17th June 2006 was the eighth in a series of free concerts, dating from the first of such recitals at Astor College in the summer of 2002.

The current series are now given under the auspices of the Dover Music Society, whose object is to promote musical talent in the South East of England, especially among gifted musicians hoping to make a career in music.

The first half of the concert was devoted to the fourteen year old Oliver Poole's outstanding performance of all four of Chopin's Ballades. All four are virtuoso pieces in their own right, with sonorous lyrical melodies developing into cascades of fiery music, a storm of tempestuous scales, chords and octaves, which only pianists of considerable skill and maturity should attempt. Oliver acquitted himself brilliantly, bringing out the mysterious musical tales of each of the four Ballades, despite the limitations of the South Korean Kawai grand piano. He also gave the impression of being at ease with his audience, and enjoying his own performance, flowing from an exacting and disciplined preparation, which I had the privilege to witness.



Oliver Poole

In the second half, we were treated to a taste of the Moscow Conservatory, in the astonishing performance of Alexander Sitkovetsky, accompanied by his mother, Olga. Alexander had the privilege of studying under Yehudi Menuhin. His performance reflected this; and the same thrill that I experienced in Wells Cathedral on first hearing Menuhin in 1958, occurred once more. The quality of Alexander's playing, and the exquisite instrument, on which he performed, produced a sound so beautiful, that I realised something very special was occurring.



Alexander Sitkovetsky

The first work was the well-known and popular Sonata for Violin and Piano in A major by Cezar Frank. Next we were holding onto the edge of our seats while Alexander gave us Pable de Sarasate's "Gypsy Airs" - Zigeunerweisen. The difficulties of this work are such that it is only likely to be attempted by violinists of outstanding ability and competence, especially in the playing of very high notes. He demonstrated not only consummate technical skill, but also the ability to reflect a wide range of tone and mood. The piano accompaniment seemed only marginally less difficult, and was performed with great skill and sensitivity.



Olga Sitkovetsky

This was a truly magical midsummer's evening, made even more so by the lack of any charge for attendance, the beautiful surroundings of the Dover Town Hall and the well-stocked bar. We live in hope that the spirit of the Moscow and Kiev Conservatoires will continue to shed its light on music in Dover, and that there will be many more such events.

The next concert is scheduled to be held on Saturday 7th October 2006, 7.30 PM. Details will be announced later and may be obtained from:

The Dover Music Society, Tel. 01304 213035 Fax: 01304 213039

E-mail: concerto@supanet.com

Town Centre Trees

— — — by Jack Woolford — — —

They are there, all *ten* of them, in the Market Square and at intervals all the way along to McDonald's. It has taken almost three years, from the initial suggestion by our Mike Bayley, who drew a map with pictures showing the proposed *eight* trees in situ, to the fruition by Dover District Council's Horticultural primo, Darren Solley.

The word "vicissitude" suggests itself. We had no difficulty in persuading you, our members, to subscribe £1000 and A.J. Simmonds, jewellers to add £250, and, although it took a little longer, to secure a contribution of £1500 from Dover Town Council. We had also hoped to raise another £800 from the Dover (ex-coalfield) Regeneration budget but ran out of time because of the delays. Fortunately it was no longer needed.

The first problem was the method of planting. We naturally assumed that it would, as normal and as elsewhere, be in the ground and it took a whole year to establish that because of underground pipes and services this was

impossible. The self-evident solution, to use planters instead, following the excellent precedent set by Dover in Bloom, was nevertheless controversial and time-consuming. The next problem was the position of each tree and a late intervention by CCTV meant that only one of our original placings was acceptable. Another problem was the choice of a suitable species of tree; this started with Rowan went on to Hornbeam then Gingko Biloba. Finally it was decided on Liquidamber Styraciflua 'Worplesdon' (Sweetgum) which

are now praise-worthily in place, all *ten* of them. The Worplesdon is a beautiful tree with a height of 12-16 feet its leaves are lobed; glossy, mid-green in colour and in the autumn turn a striking orange/red and yellow colour.

The last problem was (and is) the drought which, although it threatens Dover in Bloom flower containers, appears to have been overcome. And there is, in fact, yet another problem: to plaque or not to plaque and if so, where.



Trees in the Market Square

Dover Society



Each pack consists of four large mixed cards with envelopes

Approx size 8¼" x 6"

Christmas Cards



*Please complete the order form on the insert or contact the editor
Tel 01304 213668*

The Meaning of the

Part One

Town War Memorial

Marilyn Stephenson-Knight

When I was growing up in Dover and was taken shopping by my mother we often used to walk past the War Memorial outside Maison Dieu House. I learnt very quickly that this was a place where I had to be quiet and respectful - and under no circumstances was I permitted past the iron railings into the Garden of Remembrance. This was puzzling to me, because I could not understand the significance of the Memorial - death and war were unknown concepts to a small child.

When I was bigger and allowed out on my own I returned to the Memorial. I thought that if only I could go close and read all the words upon it - and maybe even touch it - there was some magical secret, some deep meaning, that would be revealed to me. But I read the words and ran my finger over them and they meant nothing more than a list of names, just like the register called at school every morning. By then I had learnt a little of war and of loss, and had seen other memorials, gloriously sculpted with soaring columns of steadfast soldiers and triumphant angels. Those I did understand. But our Memorial was... boring.

Or so I thought. For fate has a wry humour and so decreed that, one day, on behalf of the Town Council, I would become researcher and leader of the Dover War Memorial Project. Now not only do I understand in great and sorrowing depth the meaning of all those names on our Memorial, but I have understood too the significance of the Memorial itself. It has become a passion in my life. The Memorial isn't boring at all - it's beautiful, and this is the beginning of its story.

"Over by Christmas" was the popular belief - that our troops, after a few months of

fighting and adventure, would be home in time to celebrate Yuletide 1914 with their families. But by then there were already many who would never return, and losses like that of the three cruisers (see March 2006 newsletter) had damaged British confidence. By the first week in January 1915 The Dover Express had considered a Memorial for those lost in what was to be known as the Great War, and encouraged the recording of casualties for fear that otherwise some should lack commemoration.

But such were the calamitous costs of the war it wasn't until 1922, after nearly three years of deliberation and after rejection of a number of suggestions, including a shrine in Maison Dieu Hall to hold a Book of Remembrance, that the Memorial Committee could recommend the site outside Maison Dieu House for the erection of a more substantial monument. The design and situation were not the only considerations, for the Memorial also had to be funded. There was less than three hundred pounds in the kitty (today this would equal some £10,750), and this was around a fifth of the sum needed. A number of events were held to raise money, including a band performance in Pencester Gardens and a Military Tattoo, but two years later Councillor Norman was fearful that the Memorial would be "unveiled in debt" while the Mayoress commented sadly that it was difficult to persuade "ladies to sell the flags". Three weeks before unveiling the fund was still short by £150 (around £5,500).

There were other problems too. As The Express had feared there was no definitive record of casualties, necessitating the issue of cards so that names could be suggested for

commemoration. But not everyone was seen as eligible and there was the occasional lively debate when those who lost their lives in air raids were excluded, and one suggested casualty was discovered to have died in 1921. The discussions were defused by asking a subcommittee to specify the exact conditions for inclusion, whereupon the designer and sculptor, Mr Goulden, rather plaintively requested a closing date for the names so he could order materials in time. Meanwhile the Town Clerk observed, perhaps somewhat snappily, that the list had been on display for some time.

However, the design of the Memorial ran more smoothly. Mr Goulden, fortuitously a Dovorian, and thus, according to Councillor Livings, enhancing the reputation and public acceptability of the Memorial, had created a model for display. Perhaps the Councillor was right, for at the subsequent public meeting to approve the Memorial only a handful of people attended besides the Committee. Unperturbed, the Mayor buoyantly interpreted this as denoting acquiescence. Proposing that the design be approved, Councillor Livings agreed, putting forward the rather less charitable but probably canner view that if anyone had objected the room would have been full.

But indeed considerable thought had preceded the design, and perhaps it reflects the character of the sculptor. Himself a veteran of the Great War, Richard Goulden was said to be modest and subtle, poetically empathetic, and yet with a strong sense of duty towards others. He was thus able artistically to express the wishes of the Committee to show gratitude to those fallen and sympathy to those bereaved. "Masses of metal and masonry" were inconsiderately extravagant in the face of such loss, the Committee stated, and also "rather pagan". Furthermore such constructions were likely to glorify victory and familiarise young people with warlike images they might

unfortunately seek to emulate and even enhance. Instead the Committee felt that freedom was sufficient reward for battle, and that a "simple symbolic monument" placed "in the midst of the busy throng of everyday life" would emphasise and encourage both spirituality and self-sacrifice. Rather more pragmatically it also wouldn't obscure the "interesting old Elizabethan building" of Maison Dieu House.

Practical, simple, and symbolic are the key words for our Memorial. Rather than the normal Portland stone of many memorials the base is made from twenty blocks of Cornish granite, an unusually hard and long-lasting rock. Finished by hand with a rustic punch, the blocks are typical of Mr Goulden's work for they remain subtly rough, reverencing the character of the stone. The Roll of Honour is of bronze, an alloy of copper and tin, an advance in technology discovered millennia before and again renowned for durability. The Roll is carefully formed to fit around the base, with the names in blocked relief to render them easily readable. Other bronze furnishings created by a traditional method of pressing a carved wooden template into silver sand to form a mould for the molten metal are the two laurel wreaths for glory on either side of the main die, and, on the front, the Arms of the Borough.

These are placed above the inscription "To the Glorious Memory of the Men of Dover who gave their lives for their Country in the Great War - 1914-1918". The whole is surmounted by a bronze figure. Cast in several pieces probably by the ancient "lost wax" method, it was welded together, burnished, and fastened to the granite base by a brass dowel locking into the statue. According with the desire of the Council to educate young people, the figure represents youth in self-sacrificial devotion, spiritually triumphing over bodily suffering and the thorny difficulties of life.

By the end of October 1924 the Memorial, in a green lawn kerbed by granite, was complete and ready to be unveiled. Already embedded in the construction were a number of meanings. In a space set aside for quiet and reflection the Memorial was yet central to the everyday town as the small Garden of Remembrance adjoined the busy Biggin Street. The materials of the Memorial itself evoked Eternity, the crafts of construction evoked Continuity, and the figure, both in situation and pose, evoked Transcendence. The inscription encapsulated all these concepts, and firmly wedded to them by plaques bearing their names were those we had lost - Gone Before, Remembered Evermore. Beneath its material nature and symbolism, all the deeds and discussions, all the debates and decisions that shaped and formed the Memorial lie hidden and nearly forgotten.

But not quite. I'm grown up now and it's almost as though a long finger from the bygone committee has reached out and tapped me on the shoulder, to say "See? We told you so!" For now I understand far better what those who designed our Memorial tried to say, and how and why they tried to say it. Remembering the past and honouring the present they also had a clear vision for the future. And even then, with the erection of the Memorial, their work was not finished. For our Memorial does not stand alone. It carries many more meanings yet, and in the next part of this series I'll explore another layer.

But in the meantime do have a closer look at our Memorial, for it bears upon it the marks of changing meaning over the years. One clear and sad scar is the filled pinholes within the main inscription. The dates had to be moved to the left to make room for the dates of World War II, and an "S" was added to the word "War". Inclusive this time of civilian casualties and of the role of women, the word "Men" in the inscription was



Dover War Memorial

replaced by "People", while the names, harkening back to an original suggestion by the first committee, were recorded in a Book of Remembrance to be placed in the Town Hall. Later an extra panel bearing a few of the names of those lost during World War II was added to back of the Memorial. It lies beneath a larger panel listing more men who died in the Great War, for, as had been feared, some were missed, and within a month of the unveiling more names had been put forward for commemoration.

There are more recent changes revealing differing understandings also. So well was I trained that even now, and even though I am working on the Dover War Memorial Project and so helping to perpetuate the significance of the Memorial, I still find it a little irreverent actually to approach the Memorial. But not everyone feels the same. One part of the design no longer used is the flower vases. Made of bronze there were six, sunk into the granite beneath the Roll of Honour. They were filled in after some people began using them as ashtrays. The Memorial has also suffered vandalism. The figure was repaired and it and the plaques were cleaned. No longer coated in beeswax and blackening they have been protected by lacquer, and now, phoenix-like, the bronze gleams in the sunshine.

COWGATE - *the Final Burial*

Sheila Cope and Terry Sutton

IN A QUIET CEREMONY at Cowgate Cemetery - looking well kept after the work of Dover Society volunteers - the last burial took place in March, after a service at St. Mary's Church.

This recent burial was that of William Ebenezer Petchey who, aged 105 died at a Whitfield residential home on 21st February 2006. He was the last surviving member of a family who, as sextons from 1835-1870 when it served St. Mary's parish, had lived in a house there and had been responsible for maintaining the cemetery for three generations. (See Elizabeth de Bourbel's article in Newsletter No 49 with its illustration of the part-demolished chapel within the grounds and adjoining house which was their home).

The accompanying photograph, taken in 1910, shows the family standing outside the house with its characteristic 'ecclesiastic' style of window. The photograph was provided by our member Rosa Moon who came to know the family in the 1960's when the children pictured here were, of course, middle aged, and was given to her by Ted



Petchey family, 1910

Petchey, the youngest son. Rosa understands that the family are shown in mourning following the death of the breadwinner, William Petchey aged 49. As a result his widow and children were obliged to leave their tied home. With Mrs Petchey are, left to right, Mary who became a machinist at Flashmans, Ted later an electrician, Will who died recently and Alfred. Will could drive and Rosa believes that he worked for Martin Walters when they built Dormobiles at Cheriton. None of the children married and for a time Mary, Ted and Will lived at Cowper Road, River and after Mary's death Ted and Will moved to Balfour Road.

As a result of Martyn Webster's conducted tour of the cemetery in August 2000 and Derek Leach's subsequent report of the occasion in Newsletter No 39, the Society decided to contribute to the regular maintenance of Cowgate as a nature reserve and also to complete a record of the information on the gravestones which would become available to the public. It seems fitting that with both these aims now achieved the last interment has taken place and the cemetery is presumed to be formally closed.

Will there be a gravestone for William, making a final footnote to add to the documentation of Cowgate Cemetery?



Petchey family graves, William in unmarked grave (right)

The Western Heights Preservation Society

Report from Chris Taft, Publicity Secretary

Western Heights Open Weekend

Over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday the 3rd and 4th June the Western Heights Preservation Society (WHPS) welcomed almost 1000 visitors to the Drop Redoubt as part of the Western Heights Open Weekend. Visitors flocked to an exciting packed weekend of events at the Heights organised jointly by the WHPS and the White Cliffs Countryside Project (WCCP). Visitors were able to see re-enactment groups and watch a number of activities across the site of the former Grand Shaft Barracks, as well as visit the famous Grand Shaft for themselves.



1st Foot Guards defending the Redoubt

Once more those who attended enjoyed their day and the whole event was a great success. This was again thanks to the hard work and dedication put in by the WHPS and WCCP and the year's worth of effort that went into clearing further parts of the Drop Redoubt to enhance the experience for visitors.

The weekend was capped by an informative and enjoyable illustrated talk on the big cross channel guns around Dover, delivered by Philip Magrath of the Royal Artillery Museum at Fort Nelson.

This year's venue was the theatre in the Discovery Centre in the Market Square.

Publicity and Promotions

The last issue of *The Dover Society Newsletter* reported on the funding secured for computer presentation equipment. This equipment was not only used for its intended purpose of delivering a talk to a group of around 50 in Sittingbourne but was additionally used during the Open Weekend talk and throughout the Open Days to show a series of images of the Heights, projected inside the main magazine at the Drop Redoubt. Further talks are planned for later in the year for other societies and the WHPS would welcome hearing from groups interested in booking the talk for their own society.

The Publicity and Promotions committee helped to push publicity for this year's Open Weekend further than previously with releases getting out there earlier and to more groups than ever before.

Work Days

The increasing band of devotees who turn up at the monthly work days at the Heights have this year achieved some quite spectacular results. Visitors at the Open Days would have seen the results of some of their labours with the massive clearance of bricks on top of the Redoubt to reveal parts of the fort that have lain buried for many years. Without the work of the dedicated team of volunteers the open days would never be possible.

There will always be much to do at the Heights for any work party and the group

responsible for managing these days within the WHPS are currently planning the next areas to be targeted. More equipment has been purchased to help further this work and it is through funds raised at Open Days and through membership that it has been possible to buy this equipment.

Extra volunteers are always welcome so anyone wishing to become involved should look at the website

www.dover-western-heights.org for details of dates of forthcoming work days.

Getting Involved

The WHPS is keen for people to become involved at all levels with all sorts of work and would welcome hearing from anyone who wishes to help. The Society is at present especially keen to recruit more people to assist on administrative level, most especially helping to work on developing the Society. Every year at one of the open days visitors express how much they enjoy the day and the opportunity to see parts of the site not normally open, and every time they express the wish to see it open more often. Opening just once a year

takes up an incredible amount of the time of the core of dedicated volunteers and to open more often and do even more will require more people.

There is a great deal to be done. Much has been achieved but much more can be with more support. Other plans are in the pipeline but can only be realised with more help. The WHPS is very grateful to all its members and will always welcome hearing from others who can and will help. If you feel you can help at any level please get in touch with the Society through the website at:

www.dover-western-heights.org

or write to:

WHPS, Pox 366, DEAL, Kent CT14 9XY



1st Foot Guards on parade, Western Heights

The Execution of William Turmaine

by Derek Leach

“from the Joe Harman archive”

William Turmaine was hung at Dover on 8th March 1813. He was born at Westgate, Canterbury in 1781, the sixth of eight children, and became a shoemaker. On 22nd March 1808 he was arrested for stealing 100lbs of butter, the property of Robert Wood, a Margate grocer. He was committed to Dover Gaol and was tried at the General Sessions on 6th June in the same year. Having been found guilty, he

was sentenced to seven years transportation. However, a search of census records in Australia did not show a William Turmaine and it would seem that he was not transported, particularly as his third daughter was baptised just two months before he was executed in 1813!

William appears again amongst prisoners committed to Dover Gaol on 31st December 1812 charged with “Feliciously

and Burglariously breaking and entering the Dwelling House of William Abbott at Margate and stealing thereout four blankets and one counterpane, the property of the said William Abbott and diverse Articles of Wearing Apparel the property of William Kosley." He was tried on 17th February 1813, found guilty and sentenced to death. An accomplice was reprieved, but was sentenced to transportation for life and sent to the prison ships moored in the River Medway.

The Kentish Gazette carried a report of the execution: "Yesterday morning, about half past eleven o'clock, the awful sentence of the law was carried into execution at Dover on the person of William Turmaine, convicted on 17 ultimo of a burglary at Margate, the gallows being erected near the first turnpike at the end of the town on the same spot where the last execution took place about 28 years hence.

About 11 o'clock the culprit was taken from the gaol and placed in a cart fitted for the occasion accompanied by Rev. Mr.



A typical hanging

Maule (who has been particularly attentive to the unfortunate man since his condemnation), the executioner being seated on the side, two constables on horseback with others two and two on foot preceded it. The cart was followed by a post coach and three post chaises in which were the Mayor, the Town Clerk and the rest of the Justices. On arriving at the fatal tree, after spending a few minutes in prayer, the Executioner then proceeded to do his duty and the unfortunate man, having taken leave of the Mayor, and those spectators who were contiguous to him, was launched into eternity.

About five minutes appeared to have terminated the sufferings of the unhappy culprit, and after hanging the usual time, his body was cut down, put into a coffin and carried to the Bone House of St. Mary's Church and from thence was removed to Canterbury for interment.

He met his fate with a considerable degree of fortitude, but by no means bordering on indifference. He died in the thirty-sixth year of his age. An immense concourse of spectators was assembled to witness this melancholy catastrophe on whom the shocking spectacle appeared to make a suitable impression."

These public hangings took place on the high ground on the left side of the entrance to Black Horse Lane (now Tower Hamlets Road) and the windows of the Black Horse Tavern on the opposite corner (rebuilt in 1839 as the Eagle Tavern), offered a vantage point for sightseers who did not want to be in the crowd. The last person to be executed there was in 1823. The Municipal Reform Act of 1835 ended public executions. The site is commemorated by one of The Dover Society's historic blue plaques.

The research into this incident was carried out by Richard Smith, a descendant of William Turmaine's sister.

Society Outings

A TRIP TO WAKEHURST PLACE

Reported by Madeleine Mee and Jane Francis

WAKEHURST PLACE in the beautiful High Weald of Sussex is an outstanding botanic garden and conservation area managed by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

William de Wakehurst built the very first house in 1205. The family lived there until the family line came to an end with two girls Margaret and Elizabeth. After being abducted by the brothers Nicholas and Richard Culpepper in 1463 the sisters eventually married the two brothers and the two couples lived together at Wakehurst for nearly 50 years. Elizabeth ensured the line was continued with no less than eighteen children. The family line however finally ended in 1740 upon the death of bachelor wastrel Sir William Culpepper.

After this the estate had a chain of various tenants and gradually fell into a dilapidated state until Lady Downshire bought it in 1869. She gutted the house and repositioned many of the garden features. In 1890 it was bought by Thomas Boord MP; his wife restored the house considerably but neither of them took much interest in the gardens. The gardens were simply maintained, until Gerald Loder, later to become Lord Wakehurst, a passionate plantsman bought the property in 1903. Lord Wakehurst started the estate on the road to the horticultural eminence it has today. He died in 1936 and Sir Henry Price of the 50-shilling suit fame then bought the estate. He then spent a great deal restoring the

roof and stonework of the mansion before WW2 interrupted. Wakehurst then became the Advanced HQ of the Canadian Corps from January 1942 to October 1943.

Sir Henry and Lady Eve Price continued in the horticultural tradition and in 1963 it was bequeathed to the National Trust. Then on the 1st January 1965 it was leased for the use of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

On Saturday 13th May a small band of Dover Society members and friends set off in a coach at an early hour for Wakehurst Place.

We arrived at approximately 1020am and Joan headed off to the visitors' reception centre to get our tickets. She then came back and told us of a guided tour that was starting at 1130am from the sundial by the Mansion. In the meantime some of us partook of refreshments in the Visitors' area and others decided to indulge in retail therapy of both the gift and plant species.

As 1130 approached most of our group congregated to go on the guided tour. Our guide was a delightful lady called Valerie who commenced with a short history of the estate which my co-author Madeleine has written about. We were taken through beautiful natural woodlands ablaze with bluebells and snowdrops. She was very insistent that we touch the bark of the trees and gave us the feeling that not only were we seeing the wealth of colour but being able to feel the texture of Mother Nature as well. Gerald



Wakehurst Place

Loder, later Lord Wakehurst, created the Southern Hemisphere garden. He built up an outstanding collection from South America, Australia and New Zealand, which make a significant impact on the local landscape. Among these are Hebe, Costadenia and Drimys as well as the spectacular show of Waratah. There is also a Winter garden but this flourishes between November and February.



The Water Garden was a delight and in the nearby meadow in the slips it included two native orchids as well as the flamboyantly leafed Pieris which originated in these gardens. Close by are the Bog Gardens and Iris Dell with its unmissable display of Iris Ensata. The water ditch beds produce magnificent examples of Himalayan Blue Poppies and giant Himalayan Lilies.

While on the tour Valerie asked if the group would like to see something a little out of the ordinary (but which would lengthen the tour). Everyone agreed and we were taken down a woodland path where there were several tall oak trees. She explained that during WW2 the estate was taken over by the Canadian Army, whilst in situ they set up underground radio stations known as zero stations. In the event of the Germans invading they would be used for underground resistance. The Zero Station was discovered when one of the gardeners suddenly disappeared down a hole and upon investigation it was discovered that the radio equipment was still in place. They also found in the toilet there was a rotating switch and behind the toilet an escape tunnel up into the gardens. One of the radio aerials can still be seen hanging from the big oak tree. Inside the

tree there is a handle to open the entrance to the Zero station. The tour guides used to show visitors how this handle opened the entrance until one unfortunate guide discovered a hornet's nest in the tree. From then on guides were advised to leave well alone. The station is in too dilapidated a state of repair to open to the public, but underneath a lot of foliage next to the path one can just see the

entrance to the escape tunnel.

We then started our way back to where we commenced our tour, with a brief look into the ground floor of the mansion. There was very little to see except that in the hall there are two portraits of Sir John Price (founder member of Burton's Tailoring) and Lady Price. The actual architecture is mainly Tudor with very ornate ceilings. One room displayed heavy Jacobean furniture and some of the other rooms are used as lecture rooms. The mansion did not exude the feeling of what one would class a real family home. We then went into the nearby café and restaurant for lunch. Afterwards we were able to wander around the grounds and go in to the walled garden but this was somewhat stark as a lot of plants had not yet really come out yet although a display of tulips was exquisite.

Time began to be pressing and we made our way back to the Visitors Reception Centre to finish off our retail therapy and also to purchase some plants and shrubs. We then made our way back to the coach having enjoyed a superb day in the fresh air with our feet telling us they were waiting for a rest.

I would like to offer thanks to Joan for yet a successful and very well organized trip.

A TRIP TO BEWL WATER

Reported by Denise Lee

ON SATURDAY, 10TH JUNE, in beautiful sunshine, a party of twenty Dover Society members set off for a visit to Bewl Water. Located in a rough triangle between Flimwell, Lamberhurst and Wadhurst, on the Kent and Sussex border, it is part of the High Weald, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Within 30 minutes of leaving Dover we were journeying through lovely narrow tree lined winding roads, passing by picturesque old style villages to arrive at Bewl Water the largest stretch of open water in the south east. A major centre for water sports, it is also a key element in the provision of water to two million Southern Water customers.

Over sixty years ago engineers started assessing the demand for water supplies by future generations. It quickly became clear that Kent needed to develop greater resources and the plans for the reservoir were conceived. Bewl Water was completed in 1975. It took 31,300 million litres of water to fill the reservoir for the first time.



Racing activity



The Swallow

After we arrived we had time for a quick refreshment break, some of us an ice cream, then it was time for the main reason for the first part of our visit. We headed down the grassy slope towards the landing stage and there waiting for us was our boat the *Swallow*.

We quickly got aboard and were soon under way for the trip around Bewl Water. As we chugged out across Chingley Deep we slowly passed places with strange sounding names like Polecat Wood, Goose Creek and Rosemary Farm. Heading back towards the centre we passed Tinker's Marsh and The Nose while further to the left were dozens of windsurfers racing between Seven Pound Creek and Bramble Bay. Then after a relaxing trip of 45 minutes in the blazing sunshine it was back to the Look-Out restaurant for lunch and a drink. It was then time to board the coach once more for the short trip to the vineyard.

LAMBERHURST VINEYARD

Reported by Alan Lee

THE VINEYARD WAS REACHED after a short journey of about ten minutes from Bewl Water with the entrance just past an award winning bar and restaurant named *The Swan At The Vineyard*. We just had time for another drink before we met our guide

Dionne Eames for a quick tour of the vineyard, because at that time of the year there was not a lot to see, grape wise that is.

Dionne certainly seemed to know her subject and explained that the vineyard was established in 1972, on sandy loam subsoil,

was north facing and that the harvest was a couple of weeks later than on south facing vineyards. The varieties grown are Bacchus, early Pinot Noir, Rondo, Ortega, Reichensteiner and Müller Thurgau all which are suited to the area.

The vines flower in late June and early July, and are hermaphrodite; each plant has both male and female parts, and does not need pollination by insects. Pruning takes place throughout the summer with the grapes starting to ripen and soften in September. Harvest usually begins during the first week of October and continues into mid November, with all the grapes, about 26 tons, being hand picked. In the winery they are weighed and then tipped into a de-strigger, which pulls the grapes from their stalks. An auger mashes the grapes up and this is then fed through a pipe into a *Willmes* airbag wine press to gently extract the juice. This clean fruity juice is then fed into large stainless steel vats and left for up to 48 hours before cane sugar and pure French yeast culture are added. Permitted in Britain the adding of sugar is known as chaptalisation and raises the final alcohol content by 3% or 4%.

Taking up to three months to ferment, once stopped the wine is clarified by settling and being filtered several times. It is left in bulk for many months to mature before bottling takes place at Tenterton. At present the bottling line can fill up to 11,000 bottles per day. At the moment Lamberhurst produces some 25,000 bottles per year but this is set to double over the next few years.

A replanting programme was started in 2004 with some of the less successful varieties being grubbed out and replaced with Bacchus and early Pinot Noir. Eventually there will be 20 acres under vines which will increase the grape yield considerably. The new vines should take

about five years to reach full yield.

We then proceeded into the tasting room and settled down to a selection of the local wines with the two young members of the party very disappointed at not being allowed any sampling. Some of the wine is aged in barrels to impart different flavours. Only French oak which gives a Vanilla flavour and American oak which gives a coconut flavour are used. When Dionne



Lamberhurst vines



Wine tasting



The group at Lamberhurst

asked for questions Jack Woolford, quick as ever, asked if we could start the wine tasting from the beginning again. Having this request very politely ignored we then had time to visit the shop which, apart from wine, sold a wide selection of country produce and gourmet goodies including an English lager named Curious Brut and a Victorian style lemonade.



The Vineyard shop

Also on site is a Bistro, a Vino Beauty Salon, a plant base which has over 1,100 different plants and last but not least a pets' corner. This, according to my eleven year old daughter, was the best part of the vineyard trip as she was allowed in the pen to play with the rabbits.



Denise with a rabbit

It was then time to board the coach for the return journey with the sun still shining and very warm. Once again 'well done Joan' for coming up with yet another different day out.

The St Edmund of Abingdon Memorial Trust

Chapel of St. Edmund of Abingdon and Canterbury

Fr. Peter Sherred

In his booklet *St. Edmund's Chapel Dover Land its Restoration* Fr. Terence Edmund Tanner wrote "St. Edmund's Chapel is unique". He believed it to be "the first Chapel consecrated to St. Edmund", and claimed it to be "the only Chapel still standing consecrated by an English canonised Saint to the honour of an English canonised Saint. St. Edmund and St. Richard were the first two scholars of the University of Oxford to be canonised". In a *Life of St Richard*, published in the 13th Century, it was written, "In the course of preaching (the Crusade), Richard came to the famous Kent port called Dover, and he stayed in the Maison Dieu in that town. He was asked by the Master and Brethren of this hospice to consecrate a chapel to the honour of St. Edmund,

Archbishop of Canterbury (who died at Soisy on the 16th November 1240 and had been buried in Pontigny Abbey), his former master and patron, which they had just built in their Cemetery for the Poor. His face (indeed his whole body) lit up with joy, and he gladly agreed to their request (he had been St. Edmund's Chancellor and was accompanying him on his journey to Rome when Edmund died). He went to the Chapel and solemnly consecrated it with great devotion".

The day was 30th March 1253 and St. Edmund's Chapel, Dover came into recorded history on that date. Apparently the people of Dover gathered round the chapel and in his sermon (which was noted as being 'a model of brevity'), St. Richard said:

"Dearly beloved: I ask you to bless and praise the Lord with me for allowing me to be present at this consecration, to His honour and the honour of our beloved Father, St. Edmund. Ever since I was consecrated Bishop, it has been my deepest wish - something I have prayed for with all my strength - that before my death, I should consecrate at least one Church to his memory. From the very depth of my heart, I thank God that He has not cheated me of my heart's desire. And now, brethren, I know that I am shortly to die and I commend myself to your prayers".

Sadly this was St. Richard of Chichester's last sermon and mass, for the following day, 3rd April 1253, he fell sick and died in the Maison Dieu. His bowels, it is believed, were buried in the chapel while his body was to be buried in his cathedral church at Chichester, where his shrine became one of the most famous in England. In the 15th century regulations had to be introduced to regulate the flow of pilgrims. After the dissolution of the monasteries, Thomas Cromwell's men were ordered to raze to the ground Richard's shrine, which they did by working at night for fear of being attacked by the people. What became of his body is not recorded.

After Richard's death, and especially after his canonisation in 1262, St. Edmund's Chapel, as well as being the Chapel for the Cemetery of the Poor became a place of pilgrimage. In the 16th Century the Master and Brethren of the Maison Dieu surrendered the Chapel and the Maison Dieu and all other property to King Henry VIII. Thereafter, the building was so hemmed in by other buildings that it was lost to view and it was used for a variety of secular purposes, usually for trade,

being a blacksmith's workshop for a time. It seems to have been 'rediscovered' following the destruction of surrounding property by shell fire in the Second World War. In 1964 when restoration was envisaged the Anglican Rural Dean of Dover, Canon T Ewart Roberts, Vicar of St. Mary's, Dover wrote to Fr. T Tanner, a former Roman Catholic Priest of Dover, in the following terms, "In the first instance we envisage the Chapel restored as a Chapel of Unity, with the possibility of making it in due course an ecumenical centre with a hostel attached; but this, of course, must await further developments, although we must be ready for any possible purchase of adjacent properties".

A Trust was set up by deed on 5th November 1973 by Fr. T Tanner. This followed his purchase of the Chapel in 1965 when it was the headquarters of the Buckland Branch of Tbc H. The original Trust Deed recorded that the Chapel was consecrated by St. Richard of Chichester on the 30th March 1253 as a Chapel of the Poor but over time it fell into disuse and was used for secular purposes after the Reformation until it was acquired by Fr. Tanner. The Chapel was re-consecrated as a place of Roman Catholic Worship by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark on the 27th May 1968. Fr. Tanner oversaw the restoration of the Chapel which took place under the auspices of Anthony Swaine, a present Trustee and a well known architect. R. J. Barwick and Sons Limited were the contractors for the restoration after which Fr. Tanner transferred ownership of the Chapel to the Trustees.

Over a passage of some thirty years the Trust provisions of 1973 became obsolete and the



Trustees in 2002 appointed me as Acting Clerk with a brief to widen the object of the trust and to prepare new rules for the administration of it. That process has now been completed. The Charity Commissioners for England and Wales made a scheme in September 2005 to widen the object of the trust and in January 2006 the Trustees adopted new Rules for the administration of it. Trustee Peter Mee said "After consultation with all the Christian denominations locally and unanimous



St Edmund's chapel, Priory Street, Dover

agreement for the Trustees' proposals, the Charity Commission has made a Scheme whereby the Trustees are required to permit the chapel to be used as an Ecumenical worship and meeting centre by such Christian denominations as the Trustees in their absolute discretion from time to time authorise and permit, including the holding of Christian religious services of a sacramental and non-sacramental nature by such Christian denominations. The previous restricted object of the trust has, therefore, been superseded by the new Scheme". It is hoped by the Trustees, with the new rules now in place, that the chapel will become a greater focus of interest for the people of Dover and visitors alike. It is hoped that it will be opened on a regular basis, subject to finding appropriate caretaking facilities for the building and general supervisory requirements. The Trustees, who comprise representatives from both the towns of Dover and Abingdon, (St Edmund was born at Abingdon near Oxford about 1175 and was known as Edmund of Abingdon), are now considering ways in which the chapel can be made more accessible to people with physical and other disabilities and have

asked Mr Swaine to consider implications arising from this. Hopefully they also wish to promote the chapel with pamphlets and the sale of post-cards. Local Christian denominations have been notified of the change of Object of the Chapel and an approach has been made to both the Town Council and the Dover Society with a view to assisting the Trust in its next goal of increasing the aware-

ness of the public to the existence of the chapel and to secure its greater use. There is currently a regular Mass said by the Roman Catholic Priest of Dover, Father Peter Madden, here on a Saturday morning.

It is to be hoped that the securing of the new scheme and the provision of rules for the administration of the Trust will enable wider use of the chapel, one of the precious historic jewels of the town, by all Christian denominations for the benefit of everyone and where barriers, boundaries and restrictions, are significant by their absence.

Forty years later, in the year 2005, by virtue of the scheme of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, the Ecumenical worship centre and meeting place envisaged by Canon Roberts in 1964 was instituted.

In 2005 a 30 year link with Abingdon Town Council was severed when it decided to withdraw from the Trust for fear of potential financial liabilities over the maintenance of the chapel. Nevertheless Abingdon's representation continues on the Trust and it is hoped to continue to hold occasional meetings of the Trustees in Abingdon as well as in Dover.

2006 at DOVER MUSEUM

This year's big exhibition at Dover Museum is 'Dover Harbour; Britain's Oldest Port', which opened on 3rd July and runs until June 2007. A History of Dover Harbour from the Bronze Age to the present day, the exhibition is part of the celebrations commemorating the 400th anniversary of the founding of Dover Harbour Board in 1606. The exhibition will include loans from the Harbour Board, the ferry companies and other institutions, and will be a rare chance to see the original James I Charter of 1606 and some of the early maps of Dover.

A new exhibition on 'Channel Swimming' opened in the Discovery Centre on 29th July and closes 1st October, split between the Museum's 'Stairwell Gallery' and Dover Library next door. The exhibition will showcase some of the world-class collection on Channel swimming built up by the museum over the last 3 or 4 years and will highlight Dover Town Council's new initiatives to welcome Channel Swimmers to Dover from all over the world.

Channel Swimming will be followed by a Discovery Centre exhibition on Dover's pubs and hotels, from mid-October into 2007.

The fabulous and rare Ringlemere Gold Cup, found near Woodnesborough in 2001, is on display in the Bronze Age Boat Gallery from October, on a 3 month loan from the British museum. It is only the second of its type known from Britain, and is about 3,600 years old.



Ringlemere cup

To mark the Cup's visit, the Dover Bronze Age Boat Trust is organising a two day academic conference on the Bronze Age in Europe on 21st and 22nd October. This will be held at the Dover Harbour Board Cruise Terminal, speakers include experts from all over Europe and North America.

A Bronze Age public day on Saturday 21st October at the Discovery Centre will include numerous outdoor activities such as metal smelting, axe making and flint-knapping.



Wellington Dock and the Gun Hotel



Outside Hotel Burlington



Early berths



Channel Swimming Association

East Kent Dialect

Lorraine Sencicle

These days you can tell the typical English southerner by how often they use the words: really, actually and absolutely. Midlanders and northerners also litter their conversations with meaningless words, while those who are into TV soaps, tend to pick up vocabulary from them. Hence the increased use of raising the voice at the end of sentences since 'Neighbours' etc. hit the small screen.

As a life long lip reader (I am registered severely deaf) these characteristics become very important in trying to make sense of what people are saying, making conversation or trying to hide the fact that you are deaf. Up until the 1995 Act, believe me, being deaf blocked you getting work. Sadly, it still carries a massive stigma, but I will not go into that here.

However, it does make you, I guess, much more aware of the intricacies of dialects. Some years ago I had a job that took me around East Kent meeting people. In order not to be foxed if I came across the words and phrases, I wrote them down.

One day I was visiting a farm and came out to find one of the workers looking at my car and shaking his head, *its chogged* he stated knowingly. I had a flat tyre. The farmer, very kindly, helped me change the tyre and when we had finished I remarked on what the worker had said. He looked at me quizzically and asked if I had heard correctly for as far as he was aware, a *chog* was a rope used to train horses. "It's not" said the farmer's wife, "it's a wedge used to keep a door open". At this point the worker

came back and so we asked him. Apparently my car was *chogged*, because it was leaning, while both the farmer and his wife were correct in their understanding of the word! It would seem that *chog* was a little word with a lot of uses!

Another word I came across was *amper*. This, I quickly learned, referred to anything which had a defect from *amper cup* - cracked cup; to *amper tooth* - toothache. However, if the tooth had decayed then it would be *doited* or *doated*. *Doited* also seemed to apply to anything that had been around a long time such as one's husband, wife, grandparents, car or house!

One rainy day I had to cross a *nailbourne* in full spate. I abandoned my car, waded through the stream and when I arrived at my destination I was told that I was *wetshod* and *dreening*. The first I correctly surmised as meaning that my feet were wet - they were. As for *dreening*, had I misheard and did the person mean dreaming? Over a steaming cup of cocoa and with a towel firmly wound round my head, I was enlightened to be told that *dreen* means dripping wet or getting a good soaking - which I had. It also meant somebody stupid enough to go out in wet weather ill-equipped! A *dreen* also meant a man whose wife was unfaithful and he didn't know it!

There are a lot more phrases that I learnt in those days and still have on file. Many of them have become part of my vocabulary and I am proud to think that I am keeping a bit of East Kent alive even if others think I am a *bow-boy* - a traditional scarecrow or eccentric!

Dover Harbour & Langdon Prison

◆◆◆ by Colin Friend ◆◆◆

FOR MANY CENTURIES before the 1800s successive authorities had planned to develop Dover Harbour in Kent for military purposes owing to its geographical position in England and its closeness to the mainland of Europe. It would have made good harbour of refuge, but as it was open to the elements costly major works would have been necessary, thus only piecemeal minor improvements were made as they were needed, rather than as part of large scale planning for the future. It therefore seemed to good to be true when in 1883 it was at last appreciated that Dover was important to the country's defences and worthy of major expenditure.

The aim is to show the excitement of a long awaited project which had national interests mixed with local ambitions and the moral issue of using prisoners to build the harbour.

19th January 1883: The report in the *Dover Express* was the first real indication of a firm government decision to build a harbour of refuge at Dover together with the unconfirmed speculation that a prison might possibly be built at the rear of the castle. To allay any fear among its readers that the prison might be permanent the paper suggested that it could be used as a barracks for soldiers once the harbour was built. The plans had to go forward for approval in the coming session, but it needed only a commission of enquiry, not a government act.

The arguments for a National Harbour go back to the 1840s and were considered again in 1874-5 when it was proposed that 350 acres of harbour be built at a cost of £970,000, and of these 111 acres should have at least a depth of 4 fathoms of water and 85 acres 5 fathoms, but the planned size was

raised to 425 acres with an increase in costs, so scheme was dropped. The matter was raised again in 1883 because of developing military technology and the need to bunker coal burning ships, especially warships.

There was much discussion as to the location of a national harbour as other places around the coast would have welcomed such a development, for there was no harbour between Portsmouth and Sheerness that could supply navy ships and provide refuge in times of trouble. Filey, Yorkshire had a claim for such a harbour to protect the fishing fleet and control the North Sea. Dover had a claim on account of its civilian passenger traffic and the prospect of larger funds as it could request more shipping tolls. The weakness in its claim, however, was the suggested use of convict labour to reduce construction costs, whereas Filey already had prison facilities nearby, Dover if it was chosen, would involve the building of a prison.

A stretch of sea known as the Downs between Deal and the Goodwin Sands which provided shelter for ships would prove useless with the new type of naval warfare involving torpedo boats. This put Dover in a stronger position as it was impracticable to build on the Goodwin Sands. The responsibility for building a harbour of refuge appears to have been laid upon a Mr Druce the resident engineer of the Board of Trade at Dover. It was he who suggested the Langdon site east of Dover Castle for a prison as it was empty and owned by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. It was also suggested that a small contingent of convicts would be stationed at Rye or Dungeness where the ingredients of concrete were abundant and could be loaded onto barges and ferried to

Dover. So that they could erect sheds for the manufacturer of concrete blocks at its base it was proposed to stabilise the cliff face to prevent landslides. The estimate of the cost of 900 convicts employed for twelve years would be £790,000 exclusive of prison costs. More estimates had to be calculated for the assembly of the gathering of shingle to be stacked up against the base of the concrete blocks to form a breakwater.

These estimates can be substantiated from Dover Harbour Board documents and Treasury minutes dated 17th July 1883, a letter to the board from the treasury confirms the cost of the scheme, but also suggests that a larger scheme would be more cost effective because of the use of the convict labour. The new larger scheme came from a smaller committee appointed by a Sir W Harcourt and projected a total expenditure of £1,040,000 a higher figure but with a much larger harbour it meant it would be cost effective and a longer term of building sixteen years. The responsibility of the convicts would be transferred from the Home Office to the Admiralty for the sixteen years until the harbour was built.

26th January 1883: Excitement was now growing as another article on the harbour of refuge was published, with a plan harbour similar to that submitted by Mr Druce in the Harbour Board archives.

Mr Druce's evidence to the parliamentary commission changed from his earlier report in view of the different construction method to be used. The earlier plan was for a solid breakwater which would involve employing divers, but if concrete blocks were used they could be lowered by workmen. Shingle would be brought up from Rye with the workforce housed in a small prison set up two miles from the town. He warned, however, of the likelihood of ague and a much sickness due to the proximity of marshland. Mr Druce was again questioned about the use shingle. Would it silt up the harbour? No came the

reply as Dover has a strong eddy tide where the Channel tides met those from the North Sea. That was why the Eastern Arm was being built to protect the harbour from this eddy.

The harbour construction at this stage was estimated to need a thousand convicts which will achieve a saving of £130,000, excluding the prison building costs. Mr Druce had two options: to run the blocks on a rail system and tip them from wooden staging posts or to transport them by barge and lower them from there. The convicts would be used to make the blocks and then to construct the Eastern Arm, depositing them until they reached six feet above water level, the height being adjusted with the aid of cranes to produce a shape similar to a railway embankment.

The Dover Harbour Board, according to the press report was in favour of the use of convict labour and had given the following reasons as to why Dover should be selected for a national harbour; these suggestions were submitted to the committee on the 18th April 1882.

- 1 Such works have been declared essential to the safety of the country by several committees of the Houses of Commons from 1830 to the present time.
- 2 That an important portion of the work has already been carried out at the government's expense.
- 3 That fortifications at Dover, now almost complete, afford protection to the harbour.
- 4 That the French authorities are very actively engaged in the construction of harbours of great capacity at Calais and Boulogne.
- 5 No harbour exists on the English coast between Portsmouth and Sheerness at which ships of HM Navy can be supplied with coal and stores or at which troops can be embarked or landed.

- 6 That Dover is the headquarters of the south eastern military district; the troops for the garrisons at Dover or Shorncliffe are at present sent by rail to Portsmouth for embarkation or landing, whereas they could land or embark at Dover if a sheltered harbour existed there. The cost of railway carriage now incurred should be credited to the maintenance of the works at Dover. Dover is in direct railway communication with Woolwich and all government depots by rail and water.
- 7 That an important continental traffic has long been established at Dover and is susceptible of large increase if greater facility is afforded.
- 8 That a moderate charge on such traffic would produce revenue which would pay a small rate of interest on the outlay for the harbour.
- 9 If the enlarged harbour is amalgamated with the present Dover Harbour the surplus income of the Harbour Board would contribute to the cost of maintaining the large harbour
- 10 The Dover Harbour Board has been and is now desirous of constructing accommodation for larger steamers for continental traffic (in combination with the South Eastern and London, Chatham and Dover Railway companies) but has been prevented by the government declaring their intention of proceeding with larger and more important works.
- 11 Accommodation for a large number of Convicts can be provided forthwith on government property at Dover.
- 12 That preliminary work suitable for convict labour can be found in the preparation of space for future work between cliff and the shore.
- 13 Land now in hand, belonging to the Ecclesiastical commissioners, is available for the employment of convicts if (for lack of material or stress

of weather) the work on the breakwater is temporarily suspended.

- 14 Material for the manufacture of concrete blocks can be found at Rye, which is accessible from Dover by water or railway.

This argument produced by the Harbour Board showed that there was a definite need a national harbour but the case for using convict labour might have been met with resistance from the unions at the time, since a slump in trade had begun and they were in disagreement with each other over demarcation lines. This must have suited the government as it would not have wanted a united union policy against the use of convicts at that time.

18th January 1884: The newspaper showed Mr Denne a builder based at Walmer eight miles up the coast winning the tender for building the prison. Within a few hours of getting the news he was on the scene with the co-ordinator Major Hardiman looking at the site spread over three acres above the cliffs at the Eastern Heights. The contract worth £25000 caused migrants from various parts of the country to seek work and some found lodgings in St Margaret's and other localities nearby.

The boundary fence of the prison was to be fifteen feet high and three quarters of a mile in length with the bricks carted across from the Deal road near the Lone Tree spot where a light tramway was to be constructed. In addition to the accommodation it was suggested that a tunnel be made from the cliff top so that the prisoners could have easy access to the harbour while building was in progress.

The Harbour was eventually built, but without much prison labour. The prison itself, disused by the late 1890s was converted to military quarters as promised. It was not until 1897 that the real work of enclosing the bay with the Eastern Arm had began. The Admiralty Pier had been

started in 1847 and finished in 1871. This meant that little progress was being made by the time when, in the 1890's, different contractors had taken over. Messrs S Pearson and Son had taken over from Messrs Coode and Son and Matthews under the engineer in charge Major Pilkington C.B.R.E. The opening did not take place

until the 15th October 1909 and that year heralded a new threat, this time from the air. The first crossing of the English Channel by plane was accomplished by Bleriot in July. Hence the long awaited building of the harbour apparently coincided with the beginning of its redundancy.

B.O.O.K R.E.V.I.E.W.S

New Dover Books!!! Two new books by Derek Leach will be available soon with signed copies for Dover Society members if ordered direct from Derek.

Caring for Dover's Poor should be available by August 2006. It attempts to trace from the 12th century to modern times how Dover's poor were cared for – or not – by religious institutions, the town authorities and charities as well as the impact of the various poor laws and the workhouse system. Education of the poor and slum clearance are also covered in the 130 pages. The price is not fixed at the time of going to press but should not exceed £12.

Dover Harbour, Royal Gateway The first edition was commissioned by Dover Harbour Board to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the granting of its royal charter by King James I in October 1606 and was limited to 2,000 copies not available to the general public. The first copy of the book was presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth during her visit to the port on 20 July 2005. Packed with illustrations, the book traces the development of Dover's harbour from earliest times to the present day interwoven with details of arrivals, departures and official visits by members of our Royal Family through the centuries.

A second edition in softback format will be available for sale from 1 December in time for Christmas, but, as only 500 copies will be available, advance orders will be taken by Derek Leach. The price will not exceed £20 for this full colour coffee table style book of 130 large pages.

Both books can be ordered from Derek Leach, 24 Riverdale, River, Dover CT17 0QX telephone 01304 823926. The books should also be on sale at the usual local outlets: W H Smith - Dover, Dover Museum, Tyler's of Deal and Albion Books, Canterbury.

About the Author Born in 1938, Derek spent his working life in Customs and Excise, moving to the Dover area in 1974. As a senior manager in Dover he had a close working relationship with the Harbour Board. Awarded the OBE in 1995, he retired in 1998.

A retirement aim was to write and publish a book about some aspect of Dover's fascinating history. His first effort, *The Life and Times of a Dovorian – Lillian Kay*, was a great success and he has since followed this with four more as well as helping to produce three similar books for The Dover Society.



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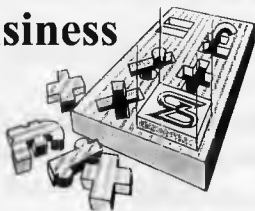
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URGENT

A volunteer is needed to
take over the post of

Advertising Manager

for the Society Newsletter

If you are interested in this role,
or you know of anyone else
who may be, then contact the
Chairman or any member
of the committee.

*(See inside cover of newsletter for
contact details)*



Application for Membership

Membership: Individuals - £6 annually
 Joint membership - £10 annually
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New Renewal Joint

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The Gift Aid Legislation allows us to reclaim basic tax rate on your subscription and any donations. Please state that you are happy for us to do this by signing the Declaration below. You must be a UK taxpayer and pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax we reclaim on your subscription/donation. For joint members the first named is asked to sign as the taxpayer.

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I wish/do not wish* the Dover Society to benefit from the new Gift Aid Legislation. This Declaration applies to all subscriptions/donations I make on or after 6th April 2000. (* Delete as applicable)

Signed

Date

Please make cheques payable to the Dover Society and forward the cheque or cash to the Membership Secretary, Mrs Sheila Cope, 53 Park Avenue, Dover CT16 1HD

I/We could sometimes give practical help with the following *(please tick boxes)*

Social events Writing for newsletter

Projects e.g. clearance, surveys, photography

Any other interests or expertise

PROGRAMME 2006

Guests are welcome at all meetings except the Annual General Meeting which is for members only.

2006

- AUGUST There will be no outing in August
- SEPTEMBER 16 **Bruges.** A city with something for everyone - canals, medieval
Saturday buildings, chocolate, beer, trendy shops, culture, etc
£26.00
Pick-ups: Railway Bell 0700; Frith Road 0710; Brook House Car Park 0715;
Eastern Docks 0720
- OCTOBER 16 **Speakers:** Bryan Walker "Dover Regalia"
Monday 7.30 Derek Leach OBE "Dover Harbour Board 400 Years"
- NOVEMBER 13 **Speaker:** Paul Watkins "Dover Pride"
Monday 7.30 **Brainstorming Session**
- DECEMBER 16 **Christmas Feast.** Celebrate the beginning of the festivities in style
Saturday by attending our annual feast held in the splendid surroundings of the
£17.00 Refectory in Dover College. Price to include sherry reception, a
sumptuous buffet, wine, soft drinks and live entertainment.

2007

- JANUARY 15 **Speakers:** Lea Oakley "Eleanor of Castile"
Monday 7.30 Lorraine Sencicle "Dovers Worldwide"
- FEBRUARY 19 **Wine and Wisdom** with Clive Taylor. A light-hearted quiz. Price to
Monday 7 for 7.30 include refreshments, wine, soft drinks, coffee and tea. Prizes for first
£4 and second places.
- MARCH 19 **Speakers:** Brian Philp "Discovering Lost Dover"
Monday 7.30 Audrey Wind "Enigma at Bletchley"
- APRIL 16 **Annual General Meeting**
Monday 7.30 **Speaker:** Details in next newsletter
- MAY **Greenwich.** Details in next newsletter
- JUNE **Bletchley Park.** Details in next newsletter
- JULY **Palace of Westminster.** Details in next newsletter
- AUGUST **St Peters Village, Broadstairs.** Details in next newsletter
- SEPTEMBER **Boulogne - Nausicaa and tour of Old Town.** Details in next newsletter

All indoor meetings are held at St Mary's Parish Centre



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MUSEUM:

Open Easter and Bank
Holidays, then end of
May to early September
2.00pm to 5.00pm.
Closed Mondays &
Tuesdays

GARDEN:

Open Daily and
Weekends throughout
the year.
10.00am to 5.00pm.
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Day

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