

The  
Dover  
Society

# Newsletter

No. 57

December 2006



*Kensington Palace Gates*

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# THE DOVER SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1988

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# Contents

2	EDITORIAL	Alan Lee
3	MEMBERSHIP NEWS	Sheila Cope
	PROJECTS	
4	Cowgate Cemetery	Jeremy Cope
4	River Dour	Jeremy Cope
5	PLANNING	Jack Woolford
5	MAGIC AGAIN	Jack Woolford
7	PHILOMENA KENNEDY ART PRIZE	Sheila Cope
	SOCIETY OUTINGS	
8	Kensington Palace	Tessa George & Lorraine Sencicle
10	Bruges	E Merrill Johns
	SOCIETY MEETINGS	
11	Dover Regalia - talk by Bryan Walker	Jack Woolford
12	Dover Harbour, Royal Gateway - talk by Derek Leach	Derek Leach
13	THE DAY THEY (NEARLY) EVACUATED DOVER	Terry Sutton
14	WESTERN HEIGHTS PRESERVATION SOCIETY	Chris Taft
15	THE CHRISTMAS FEAST	
16	KNOWLTON AND GEORGE FRAMPTON	Alan Lee
17	THE MEANING OF THE TOWN WAR MEMORIAL - Part 2	Marilyn Stephenson-Knight
20	FOOD FOR THOUGHT	Alan Lee
22	ST EDMUND OF ABINGDON MEMORIAL TRUST - VISIT TO ABINGDON	Fr Peter Sherrad
25	PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1848	Jean Marsh
30	DOVER SOCIETY CHRISTMAS CARDS	
31	LES AMIS DU CHATEAU DE CONDETTE	Terry Sutton
31	LES AMIS DU CHATEAU	Sabine Chalk
32	TOWN CENTRE TREES	Jack Woolford
	LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	
32	Precinct Trees	
34	Jet Skis in Dover Harbour	
34	Bullet Trains	
35	BOOK REVIEW	Terry Sutton
36	DOVER SOCIETY WEB PAGE	
44	APPLICATION FORM	

## *The Objectives of the Dover Society*

*founded in 1988.*

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

The area we cover comprises the parishes or wards of Barton, Buckland, Castle, Lydden, Temple Ewell, Maxton, Pineham, Priory, River, St. 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



*The committee, editorial and production team wish to extend seasonal greetings to all of our readers and advertisers.*

We hope to see many of you at the Christmas Feast again this year, the venue is Dover College Refectory at 7.30pm, see page 15. Please book your place now if you have not already done so. This will be the last feast to be organised by Joan Liggett who will be standing down as the Social Secretary in the new year. Having been organising events and outings since 1992 she feels that it is time to hand over the reins. Many thanks must go to Joan for the years of pleasure she has given to the members. Pat Hooper has agreed to take over and is already working with Joan on next years events.

Just to remind members of forthcoming event:

- **Cowgate Cemetery** - the last two dates arranged for tiding up this year are Thursday 7th and Saturday 16th December. This is a very friendly team of volunteers, so if you want to join them you will be most welcome. Further details and the dates for 2007 can be obtained from Jeremy Cope on 01304 211348.
- **Dover Film Festival** - this will be held on Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th February 2007, there will be two shows each day, in the Connaught Hall, at 3pm and 7.30pm. Also on both days, there will be a free exhibition in the Stone Hall from 10am to 10pm. For film tickets, prices from £2 to £3, or further information contact Mike McFarnell on 01304 201711.
- The next concert of the **Dover Music Society** will be on 24th February at 7.30pm. For more details contact the society on 01304 213035.

Finally, many thanks to all our regular contributors and all those who have sent in just one or two items, all are gratefully received.

*Editor*

## DEADLINE for contributions

The last date for the receipt of copy for issue 58 will be Wednesday 7th February 2007. 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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## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Autumn 2006

Members have slightly reduced to 444. One member recently apologised for being over 90 years old. That is a cause for celebration! Of course we need a wide age group to maintain a healthy Society, and like to see full attendance at meetings. Nevertheless each member is important, including those who can keep in touch only through the Newsletter.

Thanks are due to Mrs Maureen Morris who has agreed to become a Newsletter distributor and also to May Jones and Elizabeth Senyard for their past help.

In the summer someone paid £6 into the Society's account at Barclays Bank but left no name. The treasurer and I should be pleased to have this mystery resolved.

We have recently welcomed Mr J & Mrs I Rapley, Mrs S Stewart, Mr M Morecroft, Mr M Pettifer, Mrs T Field, Mr G Pettifer, Ms L Easton, Mr J H & Mrs J Walker, Mr N King, Mrs S Bennetts, Mr B Mills, Mrs J Jowett, Mrs H Miller, Mr G S & Mrs J M Payne, Mr J & Mrs S Pople.

*Sheila Cope, Membership Secretary*

# SOCIETY PROJECTS

Report by Jeremy Cope

## COWGATE CEMETERY

For the project team autumn is a time for cutting the grass and raking it into a few large piles, refuges for wildlife in the winter months. We are making good progress and are nearly half way through the cemetery area.

I have to report a disaster!! The spirits of the cemetery bless our work with dry weather but on our October Thursday session we put in an hour's work and the heavens opened and put paid to any further progress. As far as anyone of us could remember this was the first Thursday session to be so affected. I can only think that the permanent occupants objected to a little too much laughter and decided on a rebuke - not that that will inhibit our volunteers.

We were delighted to have the help of Adam, marking time following completion of school while he seeks admission to the Royal Air Force. Lesley Easton will be joining us in November. Please contact me on 01304 211348 if you would like to join our Project Volunteers, you will be most welcome.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE RIVER DOUR

As usual there are highs and lows to report on the work of making the most of our river. As reported in the last newsletter the Environment Agency was preparing to undertake work on the river, mainly to direct the flow into a narrower channel. The purpose is to enhance its speed and thus its ability to move the silt providing a riverbed more in keeping with a chalk stream. The work to improve the flow will

also form mini flood plains where vegetation can flourish. The lake at B&Q is a good example of what may result. When walking along the river bank you may spot semi-submerged timbers which indicate one of the locations chosen by the Environment Agency. Most recently they have been working on the section below Crabble Corn Mill, using a mechanical digger.

That was the high. Now for the low. During the summer months White Cliffs Countryside Project, with the help of money from the Environment Agency, used working parties, which included our members, to clear the rubbish and litter. They worked very successfully and importantly, with a proper regard for safety. The river can be treacherous to the unwary. However the funds ran out and this work has come to an end with the prospect that the river will once again become litter strewn. The Society, believing that the local effort should be primarily directed at litter clearance, suggested to Dover Town Council that, together with River and Temple Ewell Parish Councils, further funding should be found for the White Cliffs Countryside Project to continue this work on a permanent basis. I am afraid that this appeal was unsuccessful but if Dover is to play its part, other means will have to be found to continue litter clearance. However good the Environment Agency projects are, they will be of much less value to us if they are covered in rubbish.

Oh! Another high. White Cliffs Countryside Project have put up the signs for the River Dour Walk.

The work of the

# PLANNING

Sub-Committee

Report by

JACK WOOLFORD, Chairman

Has the regeneration of Dover turned a corner? As regular readers (if any) must know, we incline towards gentle scepticism in outlook. However, we are (at long last) to have the High Speed Rail Link (2009 despite the short comings of the Shakespeare Tunnel), the refurbishment of Dover Priory is in hand, and the redevelopment of Buckland Paper Mill (including our proposed Site Museum) is guaranteed by Christie Homes and SEEDA. We have the new Netto, Frozen Food and Pet shops on the old Coop Site (now "Castleton") and the resurrection of Snoops from dereliction by J.D. Wetherspoon. Although the River Dour Steering Group has been abolished, the Environment Agency is in charge and Dover Town Council's £20,000, although not available (as we suggested) to

the White Cliffs Countryside Project, will continue to fund specific projects. The Skate Pavilion reconstruction in Pencester Gardens is under way, the Sea Sports Centre will be built, Tesco may generate its own electricity from two wind turbines and the War Memorial pigeons have been (so far) banished. Archery will come to Dover, certainly for a tournament in 2007 if not for the 2012 Olympics. Work has started on the refurbishment of the Churchill Club into flats. The plans for the White Cliffs Business Park Phase II ... The possibilities, for housing and/or a new S. Kent College campus or Buckland Hospital on the Connaught Barracks site are breathtaking.

BUT! Perhaps we shouldn't have been surprised by the threat of a Waste Recovery Station at Whitfield on the WCBP: it has been in the pipeline for years and all we can do (and have done) is play Nimby with Tilmanstone and Richborough, basically on the ground that it would deter other business investment from Phase II. Contrariwise, the Open Prison threat at Connaught Barracks was a bombshell and we have done all we can in support of the almost unanimous protest. Fingers again crossed, expecting the worst!

\* \* \* \* \*



by

Jack Woolford

## Magic Again

I regrettably missed the intervening recital, but at the end of my report on its predecessor (Newsletter 55) I wondered how Robert Poole could match the three (incredibly free) of 2005. Part of the answer came on October 7th in an expectantly packed Connaught Hall, where the Dover Music Society again combined the promotion of young talent with established masters. The

young talent was Sasha Gracheva from Moscow. Her beautiful and elegant gown belied the fact that she is, incredibly, only *eleven* years old and a *composer* as well as a *pianist*. Shades of Mozart? Certainly she is a pianistic prodigy with lightning fingers and prodigious memory. Pausing only shyly to acknowledge enthusiastic applause, she gave us a recital of no less than thirteen Russian



Oliver Poole

Sasha Gracheva



Yury Tykhonenko

pieces, all demandingly difficult, on the trot, from Tchaikovsky to Gracheva herself via well-known composers like Scriabin, Prokofiev and Rachmaninov to lesser-known Kalitnikov, Slonimsky and Arensky. I thought her own *Waltz* and *Evening in the Country* perhaps owed something to Scriabin and I have to confess to some uncertainty as to where exactly she was in her programme. It did not matter. It was fascinating to witness such joyous ability and to speculate on her possible return to Dover as a mature artist.

The first *master* was our Yury Tykhonenko whose many brilliant performances in Dover recitals we have enjoyed for years. What was different on this occasion was that he played not Russian but Norwegian music: by none other than Grieg, whose genius as displayed in the Piano Concerto and in *Peer Gynt* (etc, etc, etc) we all know and love. His Piano Sonata, an early work, is not so well known, but immediately accessible with all his lyrical, harmonic and rhythmic characteristics. The fact that it is so technically demanding as to need a virtuoso to perform it goes without saying. On the other hand, the Nocturne No 4 and the Spring No 6 are more familiar and I suspect I was not the only one to need a handkerchief, so touchingly, so deeply personally, were they played. Yuri does not display physical emotion but his fingers are eloquent enough.

The second *master* was Oliver Poole who, although still, incredibly, only fifteen years old, we have known as a child super-prodigy for as long as we have known Yuri. This time, he, too, was breaking new ground, playing Bach: the Partita No 6 in E Minor. Bach wrote for the harpsichord and how it should be pianised is controversial. It seemed to me that Oliver was romanticising it, playing it as would have (and probably did) Chopin. I compared Oliver's performance with one by Glenn Gould, the reclusive genius who was famed for restoring Bach performances to classical correctitude. Lo and Behold! There was no perceptible difference, except that the living performance always has the edge on recordings. It is (and was) awesome, reminding me of Yehudi Menuhin's matchless playing of the Bach D Minor Chaconne when he too was a boy.

That Oliver, after a short pause, should have gone on to play all four of the Chopin Scherzi (a Recital in itself), each one a passionate exploration of the extremes of technique and the extremes of emotion, was breathtaking. Yuri expertly turned the pages for Nos. 3 and 4 but Oliver kept his eyes on his hands and the keyboard. His increasing maturity was perhaps most manifest in his much increased body movements, powerfully suggesting his own emotional



responses. A return to the pianistic styles of 19th century Paderewski and Rubinstein? Let 20th century Ashkenazy and Murray Perriah (et al) beware! Oliver is in the 21st.

The quality of the recital was immeasurably enhanced by the pensioning off of the poor old Bechstein and the

substitution of the Fazioli piano. The quality of the brochure was similarly enhanced, not only by portraits and unusually detailed programme notes, but also by the inclusion of Langbell's review of Myron Kopp's Bach recital in Bangkok, which is positively side-splitting. Thank you, Robert. What next?

## Philomena Kennedy Art Prize

Sheila R Cope

In July Jeremy and I attended an art class at the Girls' Grammar School to present the Society's Philomena Kennedy Memorial Award to the most promising artist in the Lower VI - Lucy Somers. (Philomena founded the Dover Society and was Head of Art at DGGs before her retirement)

We admired some of Lucy's work which included a late evening seascape, a full length portrait in the style of Lucian Freud and two further portraits which demonstrated outstanding progress in the space of a few months.

Lucy's work was also shown at her own exhibition at the Endeavour Centre at St Margaret's Bay which we visited in early September. Here we saw representations of the Bay, which seemed appropriate since they reflected some of Philomena's own choice of subject but using very different techniques. Amongst other works and especially striking was the "The

Doherty Piece" measuring approximately 1m x 1.3m. Here we agreed that Lucy achieved her aim of conveying the narrative between two young men which was heightened by a sense of their surroundings. We wish Lucy well for the future.

This year's presentation concluded the series of five as agreed by the committee. We hope that some association with the Girls' School can be maintained and that links with other Dover schools may be established.



*'The Doherty Piece' by Lucy Somers*



*Lucy Somers (left) with Sheila Cope (Dover Society) at the presentation of the Philomena Kennedy Art prize, July 2006*

# Visit to Kensington Palace

15th July 2006

REPORTED BY TESSA GEORGE AND LORRAINE SENCICLE

The weather was glorious as we set off to Kensington Palace. The journey to London was uneventful but it took one and a half hours to cross from Tower Bridge to our destination. With hindsight this would have been really interesting if there had been a speaker on board who could have given an account of the many interesting places we slowly passed.

Standing at the western end of Kensington Gardens, Kensington Palace, previously known as Nottingham House, has been a royal residence since it was bought by William III from his Secretary of State, the Earl of Nottingham. Sir Christopher Wren was commissioned to extend and improve the house. This included the construction of Royal Apartments for the King and Queen, a council chamber, the Chapel Royal and the Great Stairs. A private road, laid out from the Palace to Hyde Park Corner, was wide enough for three or four carriages to travel abreast down it. Part of this road survives today as Rotten Row.

Until the death of George II in 1760, the Palace was the favourite residence of sovereigns. Queen Victoria was born and brought up there and it was there that she received news of her accession from the Lord Chamberlain and the Archbishop of Canterbury. At once she moved to Buckingham Palace and never again



*Kensington Palace entrance (William III)*

stayed at Kensington.

Other residents at the Palace have included William III and Mary II, in 1867 Queen Mary (grandmother of the present Queen), in 1947 the Duke of Edinburgh (between his engagement and his marriage stayed in his grandmother's apartment), Princess Margaret and Princess Diana.

The miniature sunken garden, adjacent to the entrance, was immaculate and colourful and surrounded by a high hedge with viewing spaces cut in. It is one of the most beautiful of the Palace gardens and was a favourite of Princess Diana. All the women at the Palace were keen gardeners and took a great interest in the gardens, each reflecting the horticultural fashions of their time.

We visited Diana's memorial fountain



*Kensington Palace Sunken Garden*

which was wondrously filled with small children and adults paddling.

The orangery designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor (with modifications by Sir John Vanbrugh) for Queen Anne in 1704, now used as a restaurant, is a magnificent building with Corinthian columns and Grinling Gibbons wood carvings.

The lavishly appointed State Rooms, with the magnificent King's Grand Staircase leading to them, were remodelled by King George I in the early 18th century. Magnificent works by Tintoretto are the highlights of the King's Gallery. The Cupola Room, with its extravagant chandeliers and a richly painted trompe l'oeil ceiling, leaves a lasting impression.

The King's apartments are interesting, particularly from the artistic point of view. However the Queen's apartments, although smaller and more intimate, are magnificent. Chinese and Japanese porcelain of the style collected by Queen Mary II are displayed, as well as the full-length portrait of Peter the Great, Tsar of Russia, painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller in 1698 for King William III.

The Princess Margaret exhibition, which includes displays of selected rooms and *'unique glimpse of life at the palace'*, was closed. Albeit, the main exhibition on Diana, Princess of Wales by the photographer, Mario Testino, was very much open and also included nine of her evening dresses.

The Royal Ceremonial Dress Collection, although faded, is magnificent, particularly the 19th century mock-up of dressmaker's and tailor's workshops, where the beautiful garments on show were supposedly made. There is much detail about what was expected of both the workers and the purchasers of ladies and men's clothing, including the Lord Chamberlain's lists of what and what not



Kensington Palace, the Royal Court Dress Collection  
© Historic Royal Palaces 2006

to wear. The fabrics are there to feel and the atmosphere there to absorb. The saddest story was of a young needlewoman who was worked to death. This, apparently, led to a change in working conditions of the time.

In the exhibition is a spectacular evening gown worn by the Queen on the State visit to France in 1957. Not only the dress but the details of how it was made and the diplomatic aspects of the heavily embroidered skirt, puts the Diana dress exhibition totally in the shade. Not only that, but any home dressmaker will be well aware of the difficulties of putting together a bodice made up of at least thirty pieces.

Finally, our trip out of London was as equally as slow as that of coming in and the sightseeing, proved as interesting. Sadly a nasty road accident on the M2, involving a French registered 'white van', delayed our journey home. This led to a lot of speculation as to how the accident was caused and comments on 'white van men' from most of us on the coach. That apart, we all had an excellent day out and enjoyed our trip around Kensington Palace. Once again a big thank you must go to Joan Liggett for organising yet another interesting trip.

# A visit to BRUGES

— E Merrill Johns —

Saturday, September 16th, was truly one of those days which were a gift from the gods. Everything went well. We travelled on a comfortable coach with an agreeable driver. Both sea-crossings were smooth, road traffic flowed effortlessly and the sun shone.

When we arrived at the coach park in Bruges, we were directed along a tree-lined path towards the centre. En route we arrived at public loos and decided to take advantage of the facility. Inside, it was spotlessly clean, fresh flowers were displayed and the very smart attendant spoke English. It was an auspicious start!

We continued into the square, prolific in restaurants, and our group elected to sit outside. We ate a delicious lunch, at the same time enjoying the outdoor ambience while we watched passers-by and experienced the added novelty of seeing horse-drawn Surreys.

Some of us were able to walk as far as the boats, thereby taking the tourist view of Bruges from the waterways. For those for whom it was a step too far, shady seats provided both rest and visual entertainment. No doubt some enjoyed museums and art galleries. It was a day without restriction and I suspect we were not the only ones to enjoy tea and a rest before returning to the coach.

I always anticipate eagerly the final outing of the summer, (though not the end of the season). I was not disappointed.

Thank you, Joan for arranging it.



# Dover Regalia

Jack Woolford

BRYAN WALKER was not wearing his splendid black and gold uniform and did not (alas!) play his magnificent bugle, but his modest (but smart) mufti could not conceal his professional pride and joy in being Dover's Town Sergeant, custodian and exhibitor of Dover's regalia. He virtually brushed aside his 1955 origins in Hereford, his 26-year world-wide service as a Royal Marines Bandsman and his short service with Eurotunnel as mere preliminaries to his 1996 Dover appointment. He also spoke lightly of his duties as Attendant, Chauffeur and Mace Bearer to the Mayor of Dover but presented each item of regalia with reverent, almost caressing, care, with details of date, donor, purpose, constructor, maintenance and repair - and anecdotes.



*The Town Sergeant with the 1869 Town Mace*



*The 1898 Dover Jewel*



*Dover's 1933 Mayoress' Pendant*



*Brian Walker, Dover Town Sergeant*

He began with a crescendo of smaller items: the 1867 Mayor's Chain and Badge of Office, the 1933 Mayoress's Pendant, the 1898 Dover Jewel and the 1920 Dover Casket. The climax properly came with the 1676 Mace, which commemorated the Dover landing of Charles II returning from exile.

His two lapses into sadness concerned the 1st April 1974 loss of Dover's right to create Honorary Freemen and the appalling 1969 theft of so many of the town's treasures. His gracious tribute to his legendary predecessor Reg Leppard was moving. It was an enchanting as well as instructive performance.



*Dover's 1867 Mayor's Chain and Badge of Office*

# Dover Harbour, Royal Gateway

*Report by Derek Leach*

**T**he Editor asked me of all people to write a report of my own presentation to the October meeting. Almost a year ago it seemed a good idea for me to give a talk in October 2006 based upon my book to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the granting of a royal charter by James I dated 6th October 1606, during the very month when the Harbour Board would be celebrating the occasion and distributing copies of my book to all its staff and pensioners.

How wrong I was! I struggled throughout the summer to produce a presentation lasting no more than 45 minutes, but failed miserably as the packed audience discovered when I overran by 20 minutes or so! What to omit from such a wealth of information about the development of the harbour and connections with the royal family over many centuries defeated me. Visual aids were another problem. In choosing the images for the book itself I had difficulty selecting about 200 from the thousands available. This was far too many for 45 minutes and I agonised over which to omit, only managing to reduce the total to 100. In addition I had decided to take a quantum leap forward in my technology. Instead of an overhead projector I purchased a laptop computer with PowerPoint software and borrowed a PowerPoint projector from the Museum. Whilst I enjoyed preparing the visual presentation it gave me yet another headache, familiarising myself with the technology and making sure that all the cables were in the right holes. I must thank Mike McFarnell for helping me to

set up all the equipment during the interval. Fortunately, it all worked on the night, except for one slip when I pressed the 'end of show' key instead of the 'next' key and went from image 20 straight to image 100, but I managed to sort it fairly quickly.

So, I must apologise for making the packed audience late home, but hope that some at least thought it was time well spent.

This report must be unique since it tells you virtually nothing about the talk itself. This is deliberate, although, like my talk, I would have had trouble reducing it to a few hundred words! The reason is that elsewhere in this edition Terry Sutton has written a review of the book which in fact summarises my talk. If you want to know more, I suggest you buy the book!



*Stanfield's painting of the building of the Admiralty Pier*



*Painting of Henry VIII in 1520*

# (Nearly) <sup>e</sup> The Day They Evacuated Dover

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ Terry Sutton ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

*A long column of civilians, all Dover people, snaked along the Alkham Valley. Hundreds more were in another slow moving column in the Elms Vale and yet another in the Coombe Valley, all moving westward. They made a sorry sight with the better dressed carrying suit cases while the poorer ones had bundled their belongings up in bed sheets. A few old people had been supplied with confiscated barrows and carts. The very old were being carried in the push carts, some hauled by donkeys. All had one destination - Acrise. It was spring 1918 and a German invasion was expected any day. The enemy had fought his way forward through France and was threatening Calais and Boulogne.*

The evacuation of Dover, although it never actually took place, was meticulously planned by an emergency committee chaired by brewer A.C. Leney who had been appointed Evacuation Officer-in-charge with headquarters at the Town Hall. As the guns could be heard across the Channel, the committee prepared notices that, if necessary, would enforce the evacuation of the town *immediately*.

The war was going so badly in France that the military authorities decided to distribute the warning notices to every household on the 10th July 1918 to prepare people to get their valuables together ready for likely evacuation. All civilians living in the town and at River were to meet at prescribed places of assembly and there await orders to depart together for the country. The aim was to keep evacuees off the main roads and the railways that would be needed by the military for reinforcements to fight off the invaders.

The town was split up into 10 districts: those living in the Pier district were to assemble outside the Packet Yard in Snargate Street. Those in Snargate Street were to gather in the Market Square. Castle Place was to be the assembly point for those living at the East Cliff, Townwall

Street and Woolcomber Street areas. Even River residents would have to move out after gathering outside the Railway Bell at Kearsney. Other assembly points were Pencester Road, Saxon Street, Elms Vale Road, Charlton Green, East Street for Tower Hamlets folk, and outside the Athletic ground.

Assembled, the population was to move up the country valleys on the first day to Acrise. Arrangements were made to supply water and tinned meat to the evacuees as they trudged on their way. Special constables were warned they would have to accompany each contingent to keep order. On reaching Acrise the next march would be to Brabourne and the third to Ham Street where it was hoped there would be trains waiting to carry the Dovorians to the West of England by the south coast railway.

All was ready for the great evacuation. Then, suddenly and unexpectedly, there was a change in the fortunes of war. It was the German army that began retreating....and by November Dover was joining with everyone else in Great Britain celebrating victory. The townsfolk could sleep peacefully again, at least until 1940 when the enemy was again threatening the town with bombs, shells and possible invasion.

# The Western Heights Preservation Society

report from Chris Taft

*As the nights are closing in and the days are getting colder, the Society is entering a quieter period for the winter months and is concentrating on work behind the scenes, such as preparing newsletters and drawing up lists of work for the New Year. It has been a busy year preparing for the annual open day in June. This event takes a lot of work and many hours are spent preparing the site ready for the public to come and view the Heights. The Society will be ending the year's events by delivering a presentation at Crabble Corn Mill. This is an area the WHPS have been branching out more this year, especially since the purchase of new computer equipment.*

## **WHPS AGM**

In August the Society held its Annual General Meeting. Attendance this year was reasonable and allowed the Society to review the constitution and make some minor amendments to allow developments into other areas. The Society is hoping to expand its work beyond the immediate boundaries of the Heights and be able to look at some of the sites associated with the Heights but not strictly part of them. The AGM gave members the opportunity to ask questions of the committee and make suggestions. Ideas from the membership are always welcomed by the committee.

## **Charity Application**

The committee have for a while now been discussing the possibility of registering the WHPS as a charity. At the moment the application is being prepared and a final discussion as to whether or not this is a direction in which the group wants to go will be made at a future committee meeting, after discussion with the membership at large. News on progress of this will be published on the WHPS website at [www.dover-western-heights.org](http://www.dover-western-heights.org).

## **Future Plans**

The autumn and winter months are those when plans are made for the forthcoming year. There are several areas that the committee are considering for the future. As well as the charity registration already mentioned, there are plans for new areas on the Heights as well as those worked on in the past, such as the Drop Redoubt. These plans are still in the early stages and more details will be available as they progress. One area that the committee is keen to work on in the future is its own development. The Society needs to improve its Newsletter productions and communication generally and at the moment there is a shortage of volunteers in these areas. If any readers feel they would be able to help in this or other areas they are encouraged to contact the Publicity Secretary at [publicity@dover-western-heights.org](mailto:publicity@dover-western-heights.org).



## Publicity and Promotions

The last issue of this Newsletter reported on the successful delivery of a lecture about Western Heights and the WHPS to a Society in Sittingbourne. This lecture is now to be repeated at the Crabble Corn Mill in Dover on November 21st. The publicity team of the WHPS is keen to use this presentation as much as it can to help promote its work and share the history of the Heights. If readers feel they know of organisations wishing to hear this talk they are asked to get in touch with the Publicity Secretary at the address above. The publicity and promotions team is also using the winter months to re-think strategy for continuing publicity into 2007. Promotion of the annual open weekend is now a regular part of the sub-committee's work but new avenues of publicity are being explored. The WHPS would like to develop programmes to work with other groups or individuals. This work has been started and will be developed over the coming months.

Aside from all the above the WHPS are always looking at new avenues to pursue, from physical work to organising social events or writing letters to various groups. If you have any ideas then we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Publicity Secretary with any ideas or comments via email to [publicity@dover-western-heights.org](mailto:publicity@dover-western-heights.org) or by post to: WHPS, Box 366, DEAL, Kent CT14 9XY



## The Christmas Feast

Due to play at the Christmas feast this December are *Mac & Steve* who fuse their different experiences of songs from the 60's and 70's, especially from the world of traditional and contemporary folk songs. They include comic and satirical ditties, sometimes indulging in nostalgia albeit in a light-hearted way, and invariably succeed in demanding audience participation for responses and chorus songs - not to mention the famous *in at the deep end challenge*, where requests are encouraged and spontaneity is tested to the extreme. They both sing and play guitar, with Steve doubling on accordion or Mac adding harmonica bursts.

Also appearing at the feast this year is a young lady named *Leyla*. She has been singing for the past 11 years since she was 4 years old but assures me that it is only a hobby. Leyla has appeared in a number of local shows and charity concerts, has been invited to perform twice at Euro Disney and has appeared in the West End a couple of times. She prefers to sing ballads and songs from musicals and on the night will be singing three songs.

With these two acts appearing it should give us a memorable evening of entertainment and feasting, a night not to be missed.

# KNOWLTON, KENT

ALAN LEE

In 1914 Knowlton was adjudged the *Bravest Village in England* in a competition organised by the Weekly Dispatch for sending the largest percentage of its population to the colours. Out of a total population of only 39 men 12 joined up and all of them returned from the war. To mark this achievement a 17 ft. high memorial, still standing today, was paid for by the Dispatch. Designed by George James Frampton, this took the form of an octagonal column on which is perched a cushion, on top of which is a crowned orb being similar to his design for the Wittersham War Memorial.

## George James Frampton 1860 - 1928

Born in London in 1860 George Frampton studied at the Lambeth School of Art and RA Schools 1881-87, won the RA Gold Medal and Travelling Scholarship, studied in Paris in 1881 and became Joint Head of London County Council Central School of Arts and Crafts in 1894.

For twenty years, (1892-1902) he produced many works in various media including the *Mysteriarch*, now in the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, the *Head of a Girl*, bronze reliefs of *The Lady of the Lake*, *Alis La Beale Pilgrim*, and of *Sir Walter Besant*, which is in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral. A statue of *William Rathbone*, in Liverpool, a bronze and ivory bust *Lamia*, a silvered bronze, copper and enamel panel *Mother and Child* and the bronze *St Mungo, Patron of Art and Music* is held in Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum. He produced the *Jubilee Monument for Queen Victoria*, at Calcutta, the *Sailing Ship* and *Steamship* for Lloyd's Registry, a statue of *Queen Victoria* for Newcastle and the figures on St Mary's Church Oxford. After the Boer War came the *Bury* and the *Radley School Boer War Memorials* and a white marble memorial to *Sir George Williams*, in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral.

In 1911 he sculpted a statue of *Sir Andrew Henderson Leith Fraser*, now in the Victoria Memorial, Calcutta, to which was later added one of two statues of he made of *Queen Mary*.

1912 saw him complete his famous bronze of *Peter Pan* in Kensington Gardens, copies of which may be found in Camden, America, Brussels, Belgium, Halifax, Canada, Liverpool, England and Perth, Australia.

Over the next six years he finished the *Sir James Fleming Memorial Plaque*, the bronze relief of *W S Gilbert*, in Victoria Embankment Gardens, the *Pearl Assurance War Memorial* in Holborn, very similar to that of his *Maidstone War Memorial*, the *Captain Francis Mond RAF* memorial and the bronze death mask of *Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree*.

He most criticised piece, completed in 1920, was *Edith Cavell* which can still be seen outside the National Portrait Gallery in London.

Knighted in 1908 Frampton died in 1928. An English Heritage Blue Plaque marks his house at 32 Queen's Grove, St John's Wood, London. A self-portrait in pencil drawn in 1894 is held in the National Portrait Gallery.

## The Meaning of the

Part Two

# Town War Memorial

Marilyn Stephenson-Knight

**T**HE TOWN WAR MEMORIAL, standing outside Maison Dieu House, was intended both to remember those we had lost and educate those who were to come. Seeking not to glorify war, but to emphasise spirituality and self-sacrifice, its design denotes Youth rising beyond the difficulties of life.

But the material Memorial is incomplete. It's just a few blocks of granite and some shaped bronze. The vital other component of the Memorial is intangible; it is the mind of the person who sees it. Without that the Memorial has no meaning. The Town Council discovered this just after the unveiling. They had debated the design for months, and to them the symbolism of the bronze figure was clear. But to the people of Dover it was not, so the Council erected a notice of explanation.

This is the story of the Intangible Town Memorial - the part of the Memorial that lives inside our heads. Before the material Memorial can be created there has to be an Intangible Memorial. That has a many-branched history thousands of years long. But here, we'll concentrate merely on the immediate roots in Dover!

In January 1915 came the first public mention of a Great War memorial. The Dover Express asked for notification of all casualties, to ensure a full list for an eventual memorial. The death announcements from families who contributed could be seen in themselves as, week by week, forming a personalised memorial, which also included news of those still serving. Later, in June 1917, Father Grady of St Paul's, Maison Dieu

Road, would dedicate a war shrine, and he too spoke of a time when Dover would look back on the war. His concern was that memories would fade, and the shrine would then remind us of "the saddest days of our lives".

The first recognised Great War memorial in Dover was a motor boat. Named the "Henry Gartside-Tipping", it was donated in June 1916 to Missions for Seamen by the Lieutenant-Commander's family. Embarking from Dover, he had been killed off Zeebrugge the year before; at 67 he had been the oldest naval officer serving. A huge crowd attended the ceremony on the beach near the Clock Tower, along with a choir, a drum-and-fife band, and a host of VIPs.

During the war a number of memorial services were held in Dover. In view of the situation a commonly used hymn was "Oh God our Help in Ages Past". The services were often funereal - in November 1916 St Mary's, Biggin Street, used part of the order for the burial of the dead. Naming the fallen, the vicar commended them to "God's merciful and loving keeping".

Seven months later, when the war shrine was dedicated at St Paul's Father Grady advanced this, stating that by praying for their eternal rest we can try to repay the dead for their sacrifice. The shrine was in the form of a large crucifix, which, he added, was appropriate, because Jesus' death was the "supreme and model sacrifice". Those who died fighting "for freedom and justice" imitated, because they died for us. Thus was implied that because of the nature of their service and death, the



war dead had entered a more glorious plain. Several church services also cited other transcendentals for which the dead had sacrificed themselves - their country, the King, the Empire, freedom, and justice. The war shrine at St Mary's carried the legend "For God, King, and Country".

Just as those fighting were often remembered in prayers, shrines too were not solely for the dead. In January 1917, one was erected for serving soldiers at Nightingale Road. This was the Knowlton of Dover, for nearly all the male residents were eligible to fight. Those still in combat were also considered of higher ideals - prayers for the safety of these "gallant men" were led by the Vicar of Barton Road, and the shrine was unveiled by Mrs Dunn, mother of a combatant.

By the first anniversary of the Armistice, in 1919, thoughts of Great War memorials had crystallised into a need. Several villages

around Dover had begun collections for a memorial. Already one, a window at the Primitive Methodist Church, had been unveiled. At the request of the King, the Last Post and the silence had become part of Remembrance ceremonies. Dover obediently observed the silence at 11am. Unfortunately, without a signal for the beginning there was some confusion. By the next anniversary, the Dover Express hoped, there would be a Memorial and a "properly conducted demonstration".

In 1921 the poppy was adopted. The bright red on every jacket brought a November summertime to Remembrance in Dover. Just after Armistice Day the memorial at St Mary's had been unveiled before a vast crowd. Although the occasion might stir feelings of loss, said the Bishop, there should be in the fallen, "a sense of pride in them for what they did ... It is right to erect a memorial to their memory.

Nothing is too good for them".

That year and the one before had seen a crop of memorials dedicated, including the unusual one, offered with thanks, of electric light at the Tower Hamlets Mission Hall. By Armistice Day River and several outlying churches could hold outdoor services at their memorials. Mrs Smith in Dover, whose four sons had served, "read with envy the accounts of the village memorials". In mind of the "great debt we owe those who fell," she continued, "the least we can do is to possess a small statue with the names of Dover's fallen inscribed on it".

Cost was presumably an issue though, for a sub-committee of the Town Council had instead suggested a shrine in Maison Dieu Hall. It would hold a book naming the fallen - and those who had done war work. The newspaper editorial agreed with Mrs Smith. This idea was "not good enough". Furthermore, such a memorial was inadequate for town Remembrance ceremonies, and mixing up the living and the dead was neither "adequate nor suitable".

Debates raged. By 1922 the Dover Express had called the proposed shrine "mean", and, worse, had pointed out that functions in the Hall would most disrespectfully obscure the shrine with benches of beer barrels. "If all that Dover can do ... is make a niche in the wall," the newspaper thundered, "it should be made on the outside ...". "At least then Dovorians deprived of graves for their loved ones would have somewhere to lay their tributes. Highly critical of what it saw as unnecessary "secrecy and delay" the Dover Express added that the people of the town "should have been left to decide the form and site of the War Memorial". The whole episode was particularly painful, because the magnificent Marine Station memorial had that year been unveiled, and at

Armistice Day was covered with wreaths. The only consolation was a street-filled service of Remembrance at St Mary's memorial, which the Mayor attended.

During the war and after the Armistice Dover had seen many precedents for the eventual construction of the Town War memorial. Each helped form the Intangible Memorial, which was not only the essential counterpart but also influenced the material design of the Town Memorial.

Personal and individual knowledge, as with the announcements in the Dover Express, was a very strong component of the Intangible Memorial. It shaped the material Memorial, as this knowledge was reflected in the Roll of Honour, including questions of who was and was not eligible. At the same time it gave the Memorial a great meaning. This, as the years have passed, is largely lost to us today. (It is this aspect that the Dover War Memorial Project primarily seeks to recover)

A further component of the Intangible Memorial was the collective sense of suffering and commiseration. This would have built up over the years, with interactions between neighbours as well as public announcements, as in the papers. It was clearly expressed in Dover during the memorial services and unveilings. The Intangible Memorial also provided comfort for the bereaved. An often repeated view at the memorials and unveilings was that families should have great pride in the achievements of their loved ones, who had sacrificed themselves for a greater good.

Such sacrifice was seen to give great honour and glory, and also to provide an example for those left behind. This was one of the reasons why those who had survived, and civilian casualties at home were not included on the Town Memorial.

Thanksgiving too was key - not only for and from those who had returned, which

was often expressed in subscriptions, but for deliverance, and above all for those who had died in bringing that deliverance. These components of the Intangible Memorial were key to the debates that raged on the design of a Town Memorial. A practical aspect too was that for the many bereaved who could hold no funeral and had no grave to tend, a memorial and a Remembrance ceremony could stand in their stead. The Intangible Memorial thus informed the choice of a suitable site for the Town Memorial.

Finally, the Intangible Memorial was a bringing together, a secular and religious mix wherein the whole community could be joined. The community was not just the present, but the past and the future people also. For the Intangible Memorial remembers the past and uses it as a lesson for the future.

The Town Memorial was unveiled on 5th November 1924. It was beautiful. It may have been long in coming, but during that time the Intangible Memorial had been negotiated and matured. Moderate and restrained in its material form, the Town Memorial was enormous in intangible antecedent and meaning. In a phrase, the Town Council had "got it right". This was a feeling shared by Dorsetians of the time. As a Councillor said, it was "one of the most popular things that had happened in Dover for a great many years".

The story above is but one version of many of the Intangible Town Memorial. Also, the tale does not end at the unveiling. There is much more to tell about the Meaning of the Town Memorial, and the next part of this series will explore further. But in the meantime, next time you pass, do have a look at the Town Memorial. What does it mean to you? Which version of the Intangible Town Memorial lives inside *your* head?

# FOOD *for* THOUGHT

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Alan Lee

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As we are looking forward to celebrating Christmas let us think back to those dark days of January 1940. The British Government had just introduced food rationing to the country with most foods rationed either by weight or by points or by cost.

Some of the amounts for each adult per week were: meat by cost 1 shilling and 10 pence, sugar 8 ounces, 4 ounces of butter or fat, 4 ounces bacon, 3 pints milk, 2 ounces tea, 1 ounce cheese and 1 egg. Other foods such as dried fruit, biscuits, jam, rice and tinned food were given a point's value, or to the holder of the ration book, coupons.

Every family had to register at the shop or store where the food was to be purchased and this was the only place that the family could buy its food.

Each member of the family had his or her own ration book; adults had a buff coloured book, with blue for children over three and green for babies.

This was a period of great innovation within the kitchen. Such dishes as Tripe and Onions and Faggots and Pease Pudding made an appearance and are still popular today. Also some of the fillings for sausages were strange to say the least.

Then a big blow to a large number of British people came in July of 1940, that great favourite and *cure all* Tea was placed onto the ration list.

Fresh fish was never rationed but

R.B.1  
18

MINISTRY OF  
FOOD

1943-1944

SERIAL NO.  
BP 380280

**RATION BOOK**

Surname *Pharston* Initials *G.L.*  
Address *East Walton H.R.*  
*King Lynn*

IF FOUND  
RETURN TO  
ANY FOOD  
OFFICE

F.O. CODE No.  
E-8  
3

**CLOTHING BOOK** 1947-48  
GENERAL CLOTH.

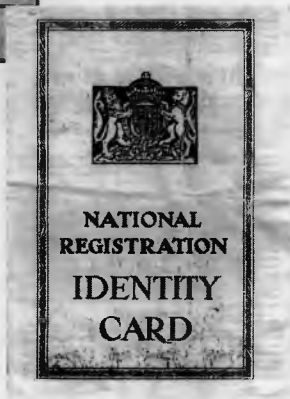
This book must not be loaned, sold, the holder's name, postal address and National Registration Number have been at least only means of buying clothing.

WISDOM'S NAME  
ADDRESS

POSTAL ADDRESS, Registered Office for  
*2206 1251 A*

POST OFFICE CODE No.  
*157178*

KEEP ALONG THIS LINE



NOTICE HI 8440-01

- 1 Always carry your Identity Card. You may be required to produce it on H.M. Armed Forces in uniform on duty.
- 2 You are responsible for this Card, and must not part with it to any other person. You must report at once to the local National Registration Office if it is lost, destroyed, damaged or defaced.
- 3 If you find a lost Identity Card or have in your possession a Card not belonging to yourself or anyone in relation or National Registration Office.
- 4 Any breach of these requirements is an offence punishable by a fine or imprisonment or both.

FOR AUTHORIZED EMPLOYERS ONLY

was almost impossible to get hold of, although tinned Tuna, Snook and Whale could be bought.

Vegetables were grown all over Britain which ensured a good and constant supply. A great many people grew their own in those days, either in their gardens or in an allotment.

Bread was also in quite good supply although wheat and flour was sometimes hard to come by in the shops. This also led to millers grinding more of the husks in with the flour. Although the appearance was not as nice it had the effect of increasing the nutritional value. About the same time the Ministry of Food prohibited the sale of white bread as it did not contain enough vitamins, thus more new varieties of brown bread were introduced such as Husk and Hovis.

For the first time the country saw food substitutes introduced, margarine instead of butter and saccharin instead of sugar in

tea. Other items were introduced in a dried powdered form, such as milk, egg and potato.

Alternative foods began to make an appearance, Spam from America, Corned Beef from Argentina and New Zealand and the smaller pilchard arrived.

So as we all look forward to a varied and *healthy* repast over the festive season let us just spend a moment to remember what was being served during the war years and just afterwards.

# ABINGDON-UPON-THAMES

## *Visit of the Town Mayor of Dover and the Trustees of the St Edmund of Abingdon Memorial Trust to Abingdon-upon-Thames*

◆ ◆ ◆ Fr. Peter Sherred ◆ ◆ ◆

**A**BINGDON, the birthplace of St Edmund (Archbishop of Canterbury from 1233) whose name is commemorated in Dover by the presence of the tiny chapel consecrated in his name, is a market town located some seven miles from Oxford and is a three hour drive from Dover (M25 permitting). It is situated on the River Thames and claims to be the oldest continuous settlement in the country. Until the sixteenth century the town was dominated by its abbey which at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries in Henry VIII's reign was the sixth richest in Britain. So complete was the destruction of the Abbey that little of it survived its wilful destruction. Queen Mary Tudor granted the town its Borough Charter in 1556 perhaps as a token of recompense for the devastation inflicted by her father. Once the proud home of the MG sports car, Abingdon is now a thriving centre of light industries and science parks and has a wealth of history. The Royal Logistics Corps is based at the former Royal Air Force base and in June 2006, as part of the 450th Charter Celebrations of the town, received the Freedom of the town.

It was to Abingdon that the Mayor of Dover, Cllr Mrs Jan Tranter and the Trustees of the St Edmund of Abingdon Memorial Trust together with Graham Tutthill, Chief Reporter with Dover



*Combined Abingdon and Dover group*

Mercury, journeyed on 27th September. Upon arrival at the parish hall of the Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady and St Edmund in Oxford Road the Dover party was met by one of the two surviving Abingdon Trustees, Mrs Ann Goodwill, together with the Mayor of Abingdon Cllr Peter Green, several councillors and other private interested individuals. Cllr Mrs Tranter handed over to her counterpart six copies of The Dover Society Newsletter 56 of August 2006 containing an article on the Trust and St Edmund's Chapel located in Priory Road. After refreshment the combined party walked to the adjoining church for a brief service which was led by the Rev'd Dr Peter Doll, an Anglican priest of American extraction and the team vicar of the Anglican churches in Abingdon based on St Nicholas Church Abingdon. As the Roman Catholic priest had just moved out (a new one was moving in and unable





*Town sign of Abingdon*

to attend to lead the service) the Anglican contribution, ecumenically appropriate to the occasion, started the visit well.

Following the service Ann Goodwill and a number of others guided the Dover party on a brief, but fascinating, tour of parts of this delightful Oxfordshire market town beginning by walking through an impressive new residential development, opposite the church on the Radley Road, through an area that was once a train station. Despite its size the station and rail line were victims of Dr Beeching's axe but this area is now a large superstore and car park (next to the Vale of White Horse District Council offices) then passing by The Guildhall to the Abbey Gateway,



*St Nicholas Church and Abbey Gate, Abingdon*

which was built in the mid fifteenth century, to St Nicholas Church. This church lies alongside the Abbey Close and on the east side of the Market Place and was built in the twelfth century for the lay servants of the Abbey so would have been known by St Edmund. It contains a Jacobean pulpit and the tomb of a local couple upon which loaves used to be placed, under the provisions of their wills, for distribution to the poor of the town. The custom no longer continues. St Edmund's mother, Mabel, is buried in the church. Having come through the Abbey Gateway the Dover party faced the magnificent County Hall, built between 1678 and 1682, from the roof of which an unusual custom of bun throwing takes place. Started in 1760 for the coronation of George III the Mayor and councillors (assuming they can make the climb to the roof!) continue the tradition on special occasions, the last being this year, when the Princess Royal visited the town for its 450th Charter Celebrations. It is not recorded in what condition the buns are when they reach the people! The status of County Hall and the town changed considerably over the years. Originally a Borough and the County Town of Berkshire it lost its County Town status to Reading in the nineteenth century. In the



*St Nicholas Church plaque, Abingdon*

twentieth century it ceased to be a Borough and with North Berkshire forms part of the Vale of White Horse District Council having become part of the County of Oxfordshire!

Moving on from the County

Hall the Dover party was guided down East Saint Helen Street, containing some fine examples of architecture, towards the imposing St Helen's church. Built originally in the tenth century the church was enlarged by the fourteenth century so that today it is wider than it is long. Adjoining this church, which St Edmund is also likely to have known, was the destination of the visitors - three sets of almshouses with engaging names, *Twitty's* of 1707, *Brick Alley* of 1718 and *The Long Alley* of 1446. In the latter the party was given a brief talk by David Barrett



*Abingdon Almshouses, The Long Alley*

Governor of Christ's Hospital of Abingdon, in its magnificent and historic Hall, about the history and operation of the almshouses which are close to both Rivers Thames and Ock. The almshouses have been sensitively renovated and are occupied to this day administered by a charitable trust established by Royal Charter in sixteenth century being the Master and Governors of Christ's Hospital who also own an adjoining pub, *The Anchor*, and other property in the town.

The route back was via the Abbey Gateway to the Old Abbey House, the offices of the Town Council, where the members of the party were once again met by the Town Mayor, Cllr Peter Green,

and offered hospitality in the mayor's parlour/office. An imposing town mace very similar to that owned by Dover, as Cllr Mrs Tranter was at pains to point out, was on display. The view from the windows of this room is over what were the Abbey grounds, Close and the Meadow, but there is little evidence of the actual building in existence.

Having thus cemented relationships with the representatives of the Abingdon Town Council, the Dover party with their hosts returned to the parish centre for lunch after which the prime purpose of the visit was addressed namely a Trustees' meeting. This was chaired, on this special occasion, by Dover's Town Mayor and attended by Cllr Bob Tant, Mr Peter Mee, Rev'd David Ridley of St Mary's Church, Fr. Peter Madden of St Paul's Roman Catholic Church and Fr Peter Sherrred, Acting Clerk, all of Dover and Mrs Ann Goodwill of Abingdon. Apologies were received from Mr Anthony Swaine, architect, of Canterbury and Mr Les Steggles who once lived in Dover but who had moved to Abingdon and become one time Mayor thereby providing yet another interesting link between the towns. The Trustees discussed various issues relating to the Chapel of St Edmund and its future use and promotion and, after learning that two



*Trustees' meeting, Abingdon*

people from Abingdon had expressed interest in the Trust, decided, among other things, to amend the rules at the next meeting to increase the number of Trustees to nine. This will bring Abingdon's representation to four, making a more balanced membership of Trustees from both towns and remedying the imbalance following the decision of Abingdon Town Council to withdraw some years ago. It is to be hoped that Fr. Terence Tanner of Dover, the prime mover of the saving and restoration of the chapel in the 1960s and 1970s, would have approved.

Following a full day's activities the Dover contingent left the town associated with the name of the Saint whose name also forms part of Dover's history. He was the first Doctor of Divinity of the University of Oxford and a Canon of Salisbury before becoming Archbishop. He died on 16th November (his feast day)

1240 while on his way to Rome and is buried in Pontigny Abbey in Burgundy, France. He was canonised in the thirteenth century by Pope Innocent IV and the one surviving medieval Hall in Oxford, St Edmund Hall, is named after him. Abingdon is well worth a visit, with its wealth of history and architecture so, perhaps, should be a destination of the Dover Society for one of its outings (if it hasn't already been). Such a visit would help to maintain connections between the two towns. A warm welcome is assured.



*St Edmund's Memorial Plaque in Church of our Lady and Edmund, Abingdon*

## Public Health Act 1848

Jean Marsh

*From a report to the General Board of Health, on a preliminary inquiry into the sewage, drainage and supply of water, and the sanitary conditions of the inhabitants of the town and port of Dover By Robert Rawlinson, Civil Engineer, Superintending Inspector, London, May 1849*

After the influenza and typhoid epidemics in 1837 and 1838, Edwin Chadwick, now believed to be one of the great social reformers of the nineteenth century, was asked by the government to carry out a new inquiry into sanitation. His report, *The Sanitary Conditions of the Labouring Population*, was published in 1842. Chadwick, who began his career as a clerk to an attorney, progressed to the legal profession and was admitted to the Inner Temple. To support himself he wrote

articles for newspapers, an occupation that brought him into contact with the lower classes and all their social problems. Abandoning the law, he took up a new career of social reform. His research revealed that the labouring classes living in the towns and cities had a lower life expectancy than those living in the countryside. He believed that the poor sanitary conditions, bad drainage, poor water supplies and overcrowded living conditions were the causes of cholera,

typhoid and other diseases prevalent among the labouring classes. The Conservative government refused to take action on his report. However, after the 1847 General Election, the new Liberal government in 1848 passed the Public Health Act that provided for the formation of a Central Board of Health. Within months councils up and down the country were instigating public enquiries on the state of their towns.

On the 4th December 1848, the Dover Town Council instructed Robert Rawlinson, a civil engineer to act as the superintending inspector and submit a report on his findings. The inquiry began in the *Maison Dieu*, the new Town Hall, and continued all week, either in open court or by public inspection of the streets and areas around Dover. The formation of a central board of health with powers to create local boards to oversee street cleaning, refuse collection, water supply and sewerage systems was not welcomed by all. The local authorities were resentful of any central government interference. This was confirmed by Mr. Rawlinson who stated that, there was a portion of the Paving Commissioners who opposed the Act. Bavington-Jones, in his book *The Annals of Dover* wrote "Public opinion on this subject was demonstrated at a Common Hall in 1849, with the Mayor in the chair, when the vote was three to two in favour of the Act being adopted."

The Report was in several sections, the first being a description of the town and where it was situated in relation to Canterbury and London. It was reported as being one of the Cinque Ports, returning two Members of Parliament, a market town, having separate jurisdiction and the head of the Union, locally in the lathe of St Augustine, east division of Kent. The population of the town proper

was 13,872, but the figures taken from the 1841 census showed that the borough had 19,168 inhabitants. By the time the report had been written, however, it had risen to upwards of 20,000. Although some of the information does not appear to be relevant to the sanitary conditions of the town, it does put the report into context. The authors have included a wealth of information for the historian: in many sections they digressed from the main issue to report on side issues. For example: details of four Acts of Parliament are included. Each of the acts relate to paving, street cleaning, lighting and watching in the streets and lanes in the town of Dover and several parishes of St. Mary the Virgin and St. James the Apostle... and for removing and preventing nuisances and annoyances therein. All these acts came under the auspices of the Paving Commissioners. Their jurisdiction also extended to the parishes of Buckland, Charlton and Hougham. It then digressed to explain the necessary qualifications for a man to stand for election as a Commissioner. He had to be in possession of £500 of personal possessions or freehold property in the town or the annual value in rent of £20 above reprises. He could not hold the post of mayor or Justice of the Peace. An election was held each January to replace the annual outgoing 35 of the 105 Commissioners. Only the inhabitants who were rated under the Paving Acts and who had paid their rates were entitled to vote. Though this section was not relevant to the report it could explain why the commissioners were against the Public Health Act, but at the same time it also begged the question of why they allowed the town to be in such a state of decay.

The descriptions of the condition of the town sewerage and drainage system

conjure up a horror scene for the 21st century reader. According to the report there was not a combined system of sewers and drains in many parts of the town and suburbs. Many of the better class houses stood over a cesspool, into which all the refuse of the house and water-closets passed. The cottages generally had an open tub placed under a privy seat, and this was emptied at intervals during the night into scavengers' carts; the whole operation was expensive, inconvenient and repulsive to the inhabitants. It was also noted that if the scavengers did not call at night to collect the soil from the tubs, they would be emptied by the inhabitants on the nearest waste land.

The surveyor's report to the Commissioners stated that the sewage and drainage system in the Pier District were either non-existent or in ruins. The sewers passed under houses in Oxenden Street and continued in various sized pipes into a vault that measured 30 feet wide by 8 feet high, the base of which was covered by a foot of decomposing filth. The vault was emptied through sewage pipes into a dock below the water line. Unfortunately the iron flap that should have prevented the tide flowing up the pipes was broken, and consequently the tide forced the soil back up the pipes into the streets and yard grates. In the same district there were 14 houses built over a large cesspool, in which a solid accumulation of refuse took place annually amounting to 218 tons. This was a description of only one part of the town, namely the Pier District, but the evidence that was given in the public enquiry, revealed the horrific conditions that were prevalent throughout the whole town.

The statement of Mr Stephen Pain, the relieving officer for the parish of Charlton,

tells of the poor conditions the people were living in. There was no drainage for the 650 houses, and the whole parish was a receptacle of filth. An area called Barwick's Alley had about 50 separate huts built in steps, one over the other on the steep hillside. For the occupants there were only 3 privies attached and only one dirty draw-well to supply the whole neighbourhood. The total sum paid out to the parish, for outdoor relief, illness, age and infirmity came to £1,146. The Surgeon and Medical Officer, Mr Hunt, stated that fever and smallpox had raged in the area for the last 6 months and all this must be attributed to the defective sewerage system. The number of deaths within the last year was 65 out of a population of 2000. The state of Barwick's Alley was confirmed by Bavington-Jones, but he also wrote about all the new properties that had been built in the 1830s and 1840s. The evidence submitted by Mr Pain and Mr Hunt appears to be selective and it would seem that they were both keen for the Act to be implemented. Mr Hunt as a medical man was aware that good sanitation and water supply would create a healthy environment. Mr Pain, probably agreed, but for monetary reasons, namely that a healthy person could work and would not be a financial burden on the parish.

Not everyone supported the Act. Mr Robinson, a local auctioneer and one of the Commissioners of Paving, presented a petition signed by 40 inhabitants, saying that the town generally was considered very healthy. Mr Sims, one of the signatories, stated that he was the proprietor of 3 lodging houses and not one person had died in any of these. Mr Huntley, the surveyor, said the Mr Sims had the same cesspool problems that so many inhabitants had complained of, but

to speak of dirt and disease would injure his property. In comparison to Mr Sims's petition, the local vicars and curates and many other inhabitants, when interviewed, were willing to tell of their own problems of sewage seeping up from under kitchen floors and the contents of drains spilling out on streets into houses. The report submitted by the Superintendent Officer regarding the responses from the public, makes apparent just how bad the conditions were and the general willingness of people to air their grievances.

Not all reports were actually truthful. Mr John Baker, a box maker and overseer of the parish of Buckland gave his reasons why Buckland should be excluded from the Act. He said that Buckland did have the advantage of being a one street village, formed by dwellings built on a section of the Dover to Canterbury turnpike road. One side of the road was bounded by hills and running along the other side was the River Dour. He also said that most houses had gardens and the use of a water-closet or privy that drained straight into the river. Because of this good drainage all the water-wells and pumps produced clean uncontaminated water. Buckland, in 1848 did have the turnpike road running through it, but there were many other roads leading off it. Mr Baker was also less than truthful about the population. He was quoted as saying that in 1841 the population was 1,199, all of whom according to a medical gentleman were in good health. In fact in the last year only one child had had a serious illness and the only death had been caused by childbirth. The 1841 census gave the population for Buckland including the union workhouse as 1472. The burials recorded in the Buckland parish registers also tell a different story. A total of 55 deaths were

recorded in 1848 of which 25 were children under the age of 12. For reasons that are not obvious Mr Baker did not include the union workhouse as part of Buckland, and as overseer and receiving officer for the parish he must have known approximately how many people had died in the last year.

The submissions from the medical fraternity on the sanitary conditions of the town clearly brought to light the bad conditions and the affect they had on the local population. Dr Soulby considered that the conditions in the Pier District were similar to the conditions of 1665 when the plague killed 900 of its inhabitants. He had tried to encourage cleanliness in the town and had, where the local laws allowed, enforced the removal of nuisances. For his efforts he had received many insults and criticism which would indicate that many did not recognise the connection between dirt and disease.

During the week of the inspection an inspector asked a young boy to draw up a bucket of well water and found it not fit to drink. The young boy advised him that it was worse in the summer when worms and maggots would also be found in it. The sample was handed to Mr Bottle an operative and pharmaceutical chemist for testing. The results proved that the water contained organic matter from the nearby cesspool and the burial ground. Alexander Bottle had been a chemist in the town since 1840 and had been campaigning for the improvement of the sanitary conditions, which resulted in the adoption of the Public Health Act. Mr Bottle also had reason to be concerned about the water supply as it was being contaminated by organic matter from the burial grounds.

The inspecting officer after

interviewing sextons, grave-diggers, parish clerks and churchwardens in the different parishes on the state of the graveyards, reported on the appalling conditions. The parish clerk of St. James the Apostle, Mr William M. Bushell, gave a general view of all the burial grounds in Dover. They were full to overflowing, the grave-digger having to open graves that a body had been interred in only a few weeks previously, the sight and smell of the corpse being injurious to health. In some there were many corpses not three feet under the ground. The brick built vaults had air bricks and apertures for ventilation, with children often peeping inside the vents and smelling the odours. All the burial grounds were surrounded by houses and these suffered badly from the odours. The report does conjure up horrific scenes. A meeting had been called to discuss the situation of the overcrowded churchyards in 1846; a committee was appointed, but it was decided to wait for the introduction of the Health of Towns Bill. The report went as far as discussing where a new cemetery should be placed in relation to the town. However, as the new municipal cemetery at Copt Hill did not open until 1855, six years later, it could be suggested that the legislation for creating a new cemetery was extremely slow or it was not regarded as a priority.

The water supply, sewer and drainage occupy a large section of the report, arguably because it was central to the whole question of public health. It was suggested that the water supply, then owned by independent companies, should be taken over by the borough and managed for the sole benefit of the community. It was a very comprehensive report, giving chemical data on how to soften the water from each of the proposed waterworks, how many gallons

of water would be required each day by the town and shipping in the harbour. It was considered that the waterworks could supply the necessary 2,000,000 gallons at a cost of 25s a day, or £375 per year. The estimated cost of building the waterworks, sinking wells, laying of drains and sewers, including all the costs of the required materials, the excavation of the ground and the laying of the pipes and tiles all had been carefully considered. An annual charge of 3s 9d, or less than a 1d a week had been estimated for the cost of installing house drains and water-closets in each house, a halfpenny for perfect pavements and grates and an additional farthing for washing and cleaning the streets. The financial benefits of selling the sewer refuse to the farmers at 8s a wagon-load had also been taken into consideration of the costs. The conclusion was that these improvements would increase the health and comfort of all classes and reduce the amount of the poor-rates.

The construction of the waterworks in Dover began in 1850 and was completed in 1854, remarkably soon after the publication of the Board of Health report.

If Edwin Chadwick had not written his *Inquiry on the Sanitary Conditions of the Labouring Population of Great Britain*, it is possible that the appalling conditions would have continued for many years. Chadwick was not an altruistic man. His argument was based on a theory that if the poor were healthier they would cost the ratepayer less to maintain. However, because of his forceful personality he did improve the lives of the urban poor. The inquiry made society recognise that slum conditions should not be a normal feature of life and that by eradicating them, life and health would improve for all classes of society.

# Dover Society



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## Christmas Cards



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# Les Amis du Chateau de Condette

Report by Terry Sutton

The Dover Society has accepted an invitation from the French group Les Amis du Chateau in Condette near Boulogne to "twin."

Already progress is being made for exchange links and other cultural activities. The aim is to create a partnership between our two organisations in line with the twinning projects between Kent and Pas-de-Calais programmed by local authorities in accordance with a protocol signed in November 2005.

Les Amis du Chateau de Condette, currently with about 150 members, was created in 1993 and is run by a committee of around a dozen members. The President is Daniel Dutertre, the secretary Philippe Wallois and the treasurer Marc Neuville. The stated objects of the "Amis" are to further cultural, artistic and historic interests in Condette and the region around Boulogne by gaining greater knowledge.

One aspect of their programme is to commemorate historic events in the area and personalities who have lived in the Condette region. Their annual programme includes outings to chateaux, sites, gardens and ancient monuments in their area.

A spokesman for Les Amis says: "We also take part in local fetes and we are interested in the refurbishment of the Chateau d'Hardelot, in its classified site and in the development of marshes and ponds in the area. Our programme also includes gastronomic interests, with wine tasting and an annual meal together." Recent talks enjoyed by Les Amis have included a conference on Christopher Columbus, impressionist painters, Napoleon III, Jules Verne and Indochina.

A delegation from The Dover Society executive met representatives of Les Amis in Boulogne in November to discuss a reception in Dover of some 50 members of the French group.

Below is the original contact e-mail received by Mr Farnell concerning links with France.

## **Les Amis du Chateau**

*My father who lives in Condette, a village near Boulogne-sur-mer in France, has asked me if I could contact an English association with a view to twin the two associations.*

*Les amis du chateau in Condette meet regularly, organise evening conferences on a wide range of given topics ranging from history to wine tasting or art and also short excursions.*

*Last year they visited a chateau in Dieppe and went to many exhibitions. The year before I remember that they came to visit Hever castle. The association is very popular and has social as well as cultural events. The members are usually 45 plus but membership is open to all and it is a non profit organisation.*

*My father Philippe is the vice-president. The chateau in Condette is currently being reorganised, refurbished and the surrounding grounds are being landscaped.*

*The desire of the committee would be to have close links with an English similar association and perhaps organise joint events. As Dover is so close to Condette, when I saw your website, I thought it might be ideal. I would be very grateful if you could let me know whether a project like this may interest you. I am married to an English man, live in England and could be the initial link.*

*Looking forward to hearing from you.*

*Sabine Chalk*

# Town Centre Trees

- - - by Jack Woolford - - -



THEY WERE 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 DDC'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 siting 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, which started with Rowan and Hornbeam and went on via Ginkgo Beluba to the Liquid Amber (*styraciflua*) which are now praise-worthily in place, all ten of them. The last problem was (and is) the drought which, although it threatens DIB 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.

Meanwhile five of our ten Town Centre trees have been vandalized. The CCTV, which dictated their siting, failed to identify the culprit(s). The District Council has guaranteed replacement, and we have money in hand if necessary, but the need for greater security is self-evident. Root guards are not enough. A pity that our original suggestion of ground-planting was refused.

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## Precinct Trees

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Since the trees were planted in the precinct a while ago I have received a lot of correspondence concerned with the wanton vandalism which resulted in half of the trees being broken off near the base. Below is a small selection of some of the comments. Not all are printed in full.

### Copy of Letter to Nigel Collor

*The District Council recently (a couple of months ago) planted 10 trees in the precinct. These trees were paid for by the Dover Society (I think we put up £1500) and Dover Town Council. To date two of the trees have been destroyed, broken off near the base of the trunk.*

*This really is grim that we put up the trees to beautify the town centre and vandals and drunks*

*destroy them. Is there any chance of CCTV catching any of the culprits? I am at a loss to think what can be done!*

*Jeremy Cope*

**There are a couple of trees still remaining. I suggest we plant some shrubs with thorns i.e. gorse to protect them.**

**Mike McFarnell**

May I suggest prickly, (what I call semi-wild) rose bushes - these are recommended by the police to deter intruders!!!

Lorraine Sencicle

*The beauty of that solution is they could be taken from cuttings - no cost to anyone - just a little time. I have several cuttings.*

Mike McFarnell

Mike Bayley told me today that he had had a phone call two days ago from Darren Solley who said he would not be defeated by the vandals, that it was the work of one man who would be identified by CCTV, and that he would replace the trees if the Dover Society & Dover Town Council would pay for them.

Jack Woolford

I would like to suggest we put the raffle money at the next meeting towards new trees. There are varieties that would bite back which may deter the vandals.

Mike McFarnell

*I have read all the correspondence with reference to the vandalism of the trees in the precinct and feel that until the Parking Services Officials who look after the CCTV cameras (and also made such a fuss about us having trees in the precinct in case they covered areas covered by the cameras) come up with some pictures of the possible vandal we should not think of spending out any more money. The original agreement was that we would pay a charge for providing and planting each tree plus a nominal sum per tree for future maintenance which included replacement.*

Mike Weston

Perhaps it would be best if Derek as Chairman wrote to the press and expressed the Society's dismay at this vandalism. I can hardly think that we will be able to carry out similar good works for some time to come - our members would not be happy to put up the sort of money these trees cost if there is a prospect of the project being vandalised. It may well be worth making the point that the vandalism most likely arises because of drunken behaviour.

Secondly should we ask the police/responsible authority to send a representative to our next meeting to explain how the vandalism arises and why they cannot prevent it? Most depressing

Jeremy Cope

*Nigel Collor is going to look into the CCTV for us regarding identifying the culprits of the broken trees - but I don't hold out much hope.*

Adeline Reidy

Your message is most interesting. Perhaps we should await replacement until the culprit is found. It would also be of value to consider how our trees could be made more vandal prone e.g. with thicker trunks from more mature specimens.

Jeremy Cope

*I think that it is disgusting that people keep breaking the new trees; they should get a big fine and be made to pay for the trees to be replaced and to help replant them.*

Denise Lee

I am appalled that five of the ten trees recently planted in the pedestrian precinct have been destroyed by vandals. These trees were donated jointly by The Dover Society, Dover Town Council and a local businessman at a total cost of £2,500 to soften the town centre landscape. We were looking forward to some glorious colours in the autumn.

The trees were carefully sited in order not to obstruct the CCTV coverage of the town centre, but it seems all to no avail. It is so disappointing to those of us trying to improve the town to find that a mindless few are bent on pulling it down.

Derek Leach,  
Chairman, The Dover Society.

...and Finally...

To date as far as I am aware nobody has been caught or spotted on the much vaunted CCTV system which makes one wonder as to its worth. Also as to why the police have not noticed the damage and reviewed the CCTV footage for themselves is a mystery. It must have been noticeable at the time when the trees were broken as it would have taken more than a couple of minutes to snap each trunk. Or then again, do the cameras not work 24 hours a day? Were they broken down? Did the vandalism take place in a blind spot/spots?

*The views expressed here are personal and are not to be taken as official Dover Society policy.*

The Editor

# Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor

## Jet Skis in Dover Harbour

On four recent visits to the Dover Harbour beach, I observe, with concern, the increasing presence of jet skies. Until this holiday season, I think I am correct in saying that these dangerous craft were banned from being used anywhere in the harbour.

According to one owner, the Dover Harbour Board now allows them to launch from the hard outside the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club, and proceed across the harbour at a maximum speed of eight knots; and then, presumably to terrorise St Margaret's Bay, Shakespeare and Folkestone Beaches.

These demonic water-motor-bikes are noisy, dangerous and pollute the otherwise clean sea-water, especially when being launched or landed. They are a serious menace to swimmers, yachtsmen and larger ships entering or leaving the harbour and to the jet skiers themselves. They already have a poor accident record, including fatalities, mercifully not yet in the harbour. The cost of a jet ski is declining, which means that there will be of them. Unless the ban is reimposed, this is an accident waiting to happen.

I suggest they should be restricted to designated beaches or lakes, away from sailors and swimmers, just as noisy stock-car banger racing is restricted to tracks like the Lydden circuit. Finally, what an appalling waste of our ever diminishing fossil fuel!

Yours sincerely  
G. N. Harby

Dear Editor

## Bullet Trains

Having recently returned from Edinburgh (by train) I was astonished to see the description, in the Dover Express, of the Bullet Trains that will be running between Dover and London from 2009. The King's Cross - Edinburgh trains operate to a faster schedule though I would not describe them as Bullet Trains so where is this latest spin originating from? Was it in the DDC press release?

I was moved to write to both local papers and was wondering if you had spotted the mistake in the Express where I was quoted as stating that the London - Dover journey time in the 60's was little more than an hour! This was untrue. An extract from my e-mail to the Express is as follows: "So I can state categorically that, with 3 stops to Charing Cross, the journey time over 40 years ago was little more than a few minutes greater than 1½ hours. So 70 minutes in 2009 is no big deal." In fact the train I used to catch over a 5 year period from '63 to '68 left Charing Cross at 7pm arriving at Priory at 8.34pm. Later the schedule was speeded up from 94 to 92 minutes.

I am very pleased that Dover is to get the faster trains that will go to St Pancras. That will be of particular benefit for onward services north from King's Cross with a similar benefit travelling north from Euston. However, a 35% ticket premium is rumoured for a return journey to London and the time saving is much reduced when travelling by underground to the city or the west end. These are better served by Cannon Street and Charing Cross.

So my verdict is that the new services will fit very well into a faster integrated national rail network, something that Lorraine and I are using increasingly frequently as journeys by road become both less predictable and practical. This situation can only get worse in the future.

DDC would like to believe that the proposed services will appeal to the commuter thus justifying their decision to endorse the building of thousands of new homes in the district. We both have yet to be convinced?

Best regards  
Alan Sencicle

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

## Regal Read about Monarchs at Dover

••• Reviewed by Terry Sutton •••

On sale in December, and set to go like hot cakes, is a fascinating book that details the historical links between Royalty and the Port of Dover.

Publication of the book, *Dover Harbour Royal Gateway*, sponsored by Dover Harbour Board, is the result of a year of research by the author, our chairman Derek Leach.

Since his retirement Derek, as well as taking on a host of voluntary tasks, has made a name for himself in writing and publishing a number of books on local people and places.

This latest book published by Riverdale Publications of 24 Riverdale, River and printed by Buckland Press: (£17) is surely his best, adding as it does to the accurate historical documentation of the town and port.

*Dover Harbour Royal Gateway* commemorates the 400th anniversary of the granting of a royal charter to Dover Harbour Board by James I in 1606. The attractively illustrated book is a unique compilation of the port's association with royalty as well as charting the history of the ever-changing development of the port from pre-Roman times to today and even looks ahead to the proposals contained in the Port of Dover's 30-year master plan.

The list of monarchs who have sailed to and from Dover begins in this book with Henry I (reigned 1100-1135) and

Stephen, who landed at Dover in 1135, and runs through to the present time with the visit to the port by Queen Elizabeth II in July 2005.

Readers will find particularly interesting the details of how the outline of the port and its harbour have changed over the generations as a result of shifts of nature and the fluctuation in the demands for cross-Channel travel.

A useful appendix lists the kings and queens of England from 1066 to the present day and the register of chairmen of Dover Harbour Board from 1606 to today's Robert Dibble.

I congratulate Dover Harbour Board on its decision to sponsor such an absorbing book on the port and the selection of a local author to compile it.



# The Dover Society Website

[www.doversociety.homestead.com](http://www.doversociety.homestead.com)

*Please visit the site. Read reports on meetings, check the programme of events.*

Your comments and observations would be appreciated.

Links to other Dover websites are listed on our website and give valuable information about our town.

**Stay informed on the proposed Open Prison by visiting:**

[www.nopid.homestead.com](http://www.nopid.homestead.com)

**The Dover Civic Pride Campaign wishes to use people and computer power to rid the town of the many eyesores and blight. Visit the website and sign up.**

[www.dovercivicpride.homestead.com](http://www.dovercivicpride.homestead.com)

**The Dover Film Festival takes place on 5th and 6th February 2007.**

**Mike McFarnell will show his 2006 Dover Film of the events that took place in Dover followed by the 1966 Dover Film taken by Ray Warner.**

**The Festival will also use the Stone Hall for a free exhibition and workshop over the two days of the festival 10am - 4.00pm.**

[www.doverfilmfestival.homestead.com](http://www.doverfilmfestival.homestead.com)

**World Cup and European Grand Archery comes to Dover**

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[www.dover-archery.net/](http://www.dover-archery.net/)

**The following sites may prove to yield some useful information**

- Dover Castle: [www.dover-castle-friends.org](http://www.dover-castle-friends.org)
- Dover District Council: [www.dover.gov.uk](http://www.dover.gov.uk)
- Dover Hospital Fete: [www.doverhospitalfete.homestead.com](http://www.doverhospitalfete.homestead.com)
- Dover Operatic Society: [www.dods.org.uk](http://www.dods.org.uk)
- Dover Pageant: [www.doverpageant.com](http://www.doverpageant.com)
- Dover Town Council: [www.dovertown.com](http://www.dovertown.com)
- Dover Transport Museum: [www.dovertransportmuseum.homestead.com](http://www.dovertransportmuseum.homestead.com)
- Confederation of Cinque Ports: [www.cinqueports.net](http://www.cinqueports.net)
- Kent County Council: [www.kenttourism.co.uk](http://www.kenttourism.co.uk)

**If you require more information contact the editor, Mike McFarnell  
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but also from:

**Riverdale Publications**

Derek Leach Tel: 01304 823926

*Our Town Dover, Dover 1945 - 2000* Derek Leach & Terry Sutton  
price £12 - Special Offer £10 to members

*My Dover* Joe Harman price £10 - out of stock

*Greetings, Dover!* Jack Hewitt price £10 - Special Offer £5 to members

*Bombs Gone! An Elvington Lad's War* Dickie Parfitt price £8

*The Life and Times of a Dovorian* Lillian Kay  
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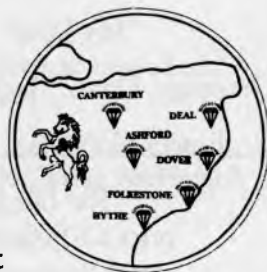
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## LOCAL BOOKS

Most titles are available from local Dover bookshops  
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*Dover and the Monarchy* Ivan Green  
price £8 - only a few copies still available

*The White Cliffs of Dover: Images of Cliff and Shore* Peter & Julie Burville  
price £8.75 - now in its second print

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## The Dover Society Newsletter Binders

*Are now available at  
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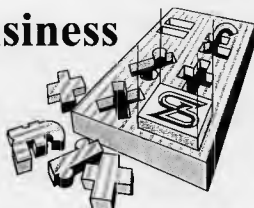
Contact the editor at  
8 Cherry Tree Avenue  
Dover, CT16 2NL

Tel: 01304 213668

Email:

[Alan.lee1947@ntlworld.com](mailto:Alan.lee1947@ntlworld.com)

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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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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 .....

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# PROGRAMME 2006 - 2007

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

## 2006

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  
7 for 7.30          Refectory in Dover College. Price to include sherry reception, a  
£17.00              sumptuous buffet, wine, soft drinks and live entertainment with Mac  
                         & Steve and Leyla.

## 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  
£4.00                  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:** Bob Goldfield "Dover Harbour Board"

MAY 19             **Greenwich.** The Maritime and Fan Museums, the Georgian town  
Saturday            centre and the Cutty Sark are among its many attractions.  
£13.00

JUNE                **Bletchley Park.** Details in next newsletter

JULY                **Palace of Westminster.** Details in next newsletter  
£13.00

AUGUST 16        Morning visit to **St Peters Village, Broadstairs** followed by lunch in  
Thursday          the local pub.  
£10.00 (does not include lunch)

SEPTEMBER        **Boulogne - Nausicaa (am) and tour of Old Town (pm).** Arranged by  
Saturday          our French friends of l'Association Culturelle des Amies du Chateau.  
£26.00 (approx)

OCTOBER 15       **Speakers:** John Clayton "South Foreland Lighthouse"  
Monday 7.30          Richard Sturt "Water Matters"

NOVEMBER 19      **Speaker:** Nadeem Aziz "Dover Retrospect and Prospect"  
Monday 7.30

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

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