



Newsletter

No. 72

December 2011



Dover Museum

© Dover Museum



THE DOVER SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1988

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The Objectives of the Dover Society

founded in 1988.

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

The area we cover comprises the parishes or wards of Barton, Buckland, Castle, Lydden, Temple Ewell, Maxton, Pineham, Priory, River, St. 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 would like to wish all of our members, advertisers and staff of Adams the Printers a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous 2012.

Once again the Dover Film Festival, the Dover Regatta and the Heritage Open Days have proved to be amongst the most successful events held in the town over the last year. Thanks must go to all who helped organise and run them.

The Christmas Feast this year will be held in the Refectory of Dover College. Entry will be via the gate in Effingham Crescent. Owing to higher costs we regret that the price of a ticket this year has had to be increased to £25. This is still excellent value for an evening of fine entertainment. Details inside the back cover.

Following on from the feast the next talk night will be held on 16th January, then on 20th February we will see the ever popular Wine and Wisdom evening. Details inside the back cover.

The annual Dover Film Festival will take place March in Dover Town Hall. For further details see the advertisement in this newsletter.

Other growing successful events the society is heavily involved in are the tours of the town hall. Over the winter, until the 31st March 2012, these tours, which include the new History Room,

will be every Wednesday morning. The money raised will help with the restoration work. For further details see the advertisement in this newsletter.

The holm oak planted by the society in Connaught Park in September 2008, is looking strong and healthy. It is a shame that Dover District Council has still not seen fit to have the pond repaired. I thought that it would have been done in 2010, but we are still waiting.

One of our members, Mike McFarnell,

is busy with the organisation of a military tattoo. This will be held in Fort Burgoyne next year to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Further details are given in this newsletter.

I am always on the lookout for articles and stories with a local interest. If you would like to contribute anything for inclusion in the newsletter please contact the editor:

E-mail: Alan.lee1947@ntlworld.com
or by telephone on 01304 213668.

Alan Lee

* * * * *

DEADLINE for contributions

The last date for the receipt of copy for issue 73 will be Wednesday 18th January 2012. 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 2011

Our warm thanks go to Georgette Rapley who for two years or more has organised our raffles. Profits from raffles contribute to the cost of hall hire and general expenses connected with meetings. Wine is available at our meetings but we are not allowed to sell it owing to licensing restrictions. Raffles are therefore an important source of revenue and are an alternative to an admission fee. When you read this we shall have experienced our simplified method of having three vouchers as prizes for raffles at our October and November meetings. Comments appreciated.

We welcome Merrill and Bruce Lilley back to Dover. They have left Walmer and come 'home' to The Gateway and we look forward to their attendance at meetings once again.

We have 450 members and are now pleased to include:- Mrs D Simpson, Mr B & Mrs D French, Mr M & Mrs K Smith, Mr T & Mrs M Nunn, Dr L Keen and Mr M Cooper. Thanks to all our members who introduce others. It is one of the best means of recruitment.

It is with great regret that we must report the sad loss of John Turnpenny a Freeman of Dover and one of our members.

Sheila R. Cope

COWGATE CEMETERY

Jeremy Cope

We have been cutting the grass after the summer's growth. The weather in July and August in particular caught us out and rained us off on a couple of sessions. However our volunteers were not put off and we ran extra sessions in September and made good the loss. Thanks are due to those who put in the additional time.

One of the best changes that have occurred in our organisation, at least for those who drink coffee, is that from instant to the much superior percolated coffee. Our thanks go to Deborah Gasking, who in between cutting the grass is responsible for this upgrading of our break time

environment. All we await is another volunteer keen assisting on Cowgate but with the gift of creating superior tea. As a coffee drinker I think it is not such a problem. Tel: 01304 211348 for further details.

We meet from 9am to 12 noon and the dates for 2012 are:

Thursday	Saturday
5th January	14th January
2nd February	11th February
1st March	10th March
5th April	14th April
3rd May	12th May
7th June	16th June
5th July	14th July
2nd August	11th August
6th September	15th September

OCTOBER MEETING

1st Talk

Aspects of Freemasonry

A talk by Brian Powell and Mike Webb
reported by Alan Lee

Brian Powell, the Assistant Grand Master of East Kent commenced the first talk with the question, "What is freemasonry?" He went on to say, "Ask 10 masons and you will get 10 different answers." He then described the way the masons are governed, from the United Grand Lodge of England to the provincial lodges and down to the local lodges. There are three different ceremonies to initiate new members that go back some three hundred years.

Only men can become full members but many women attend as guests. Ladies lodges do exist but they are under a separate organisation. A local one is the White Cliffs Lodge.



The Provincial Grand Master of East Kent and Senior Officers

Brian has been a member since he moved to Dover from London in 1967. This has enabled him to meet a great many people and over the years make a lot of firm friends.

The history of the masons derives from the old stone masons who formed a society to ensure their workmanship was kept to a high standard. It also worked as a form of friendly society. The first documentation of the making of an English freemason was that of Elias Ashmole in 1646. In 1717 the four London lodges met at the *Goose and Gridiron Ale House* in St Paul's Churchyard and declared themselves a Grand Lodge. Then in 1813 the United Grand Lodge was formed. During the 18th and 19th centuries the movement spread worldwide. This mirrored the expansion of the British Empire.

Many lodges were formed with a military connection. At this time many of the Dover lodges had military ties. The first local one was formed by the 1st Battalion Lancashire Militia who held their meetings in the canteen of Dover Castle.

The oldest lodge that still meets in Dover is the Lodge of Peace and Harmony No 199. It was formed in 1792 and used to hold its meetings in various local taverns.

The present premises in Snargate Street were formerly the London and County

Bank and were purchased in 1886. The dark blue colour of the building happened by mistake. It was intended to be a light blue. Blue has been the colour of craft freemasonry for a great many years. After painting a small section the tradesman told the wife to pass a message to her husband that if he heard nothing by the afternoon he would assume the colour was all right. He heard nothing so finished the job. Days later she remembered to tell her husband, but by then it was too late.

Brian is a member of the Military Jubilee Lodge, formed in 1887. It was named in honour of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. One previous member of the lodge Worshipful Bro. William Bernard Traynor was awarded the Victoria Cross while serving as a Sergeant with the 2nd Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own) during the 2nd Boer War. On 6th February 1901 at Bothwell Camp South Africa he helped carry a wounded comrade to safety and although badly wounded himself, he remained on duty to encourage his men. Born in Hull, East Yorkshire on 31st December 1870 he was invalided out of the army and settled in Dover in 1902. He retired as a Barrack Room Warden in 1935. He died at Buckland Hospital Dover on 20th October 1954 and is buried with his wife Jane and son Frank in Charlton Cemetery.

At present there are eleven lodges that meet in Dover with a total membership of 634. They are military, professional, artisan or a

mixture of all three. At present freemasonry in the town is in good health. Freemasons support four national charities and after the government they are the largest donors to the hospice movement. They also raise considerable sums to donate to county and local charities. In East Kent they have given £180,000 to members in need and £250,000 to hospices in Kent.

Membership in England and Wales is about 250,000 and worldwide some 6 million. There have been many well known masons among them Arthur Wellesley, '1st Duke of Wellington', Sir Winston Churchill, Sir Alexander Fleming, Sir Ernest Shackleton, Robert 'Robbie' Burns, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Rudyard Kipling, Henry Ford, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Nat 'King' Cole, William 'Buffalo Bill' Cody, Clive Lloyd, Arnold Palmer, John Wayne, Peter Sellers and many more. The United Grand Lodge of England has been governed by The Grand Master, The Most Worshipful, His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent for over 40 years.

Mike Webb then continued the talk with details of his latest trip to America where he was privileged to meet many masons. His daughter and son-in-law live in Boise, the capitol of Idaho, and so this visit saw Mike travel right across America to the west.

The first six Presidents of the United States were all freemasons as were Meriwether Louis and



The Grand Master HRH The Duke of Kent

William Clark. In 1803 Thomas Jefferson sent them and their Corps of Discovery to find a water route to the Pacific. During the journey they discovered some 300 species of plants and animals unknown to science, nearly 50 different Indian tribes and the Rockies.

They finally started from St Charles, Missouri on 21st May 1804 and reached the Pacific Ocean, near the estuary of the Columbia River, in the middle of November 1805. After over wintering there they started for home and reached St Louis and an enthusiastic welcome on 23rd September 1806 - two years four months and ten days after they left.

It was also in 1803 that Jefferson concluded the purchase of Louisiana from the French for \$15 million or 4 cents an acre. This doubled the size of the United States of America.

The Star Spangled Banner (the US anthem) was written by a freemason as was the Pledge of Allegiance. Other famous masons were the aviators Charles Lindbergh (first solo flight across the Atlantic), Louis Bleriot (first solo powered flight across the Channel) and Edwin Eugene "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. (pilot of first moon landing and second man to walk on the moon).

Mike and his wife visited Idaho City, now a virtual ghost town where the three largest buildings are the jail, the Mayor's house and the masonic hall. In 1864 the population was in excess of 7000 people, by 1920 it was down to 104 and in the 2000 census it stood at 458. The Grand Lodge of Idaho (the Idaho Lodge No 1) was founded here in 1867, and is now located in Boise. In America the freemasons

are the largest donors to children's charities.

During the talk some interesting facts emerged and some myths were dispelled. Freemasonry is slightly old fashioned and retains a high standard of politeness and behaviour. Some of the ceremonies are similar to the local mayor making and the opening of Parliament. Masons are not in existence to rule the world and they are not a cult. Religion and politics are not allowed to be discussed at the lodge. At a meeting there is always a toast drunk to the reigning monarch. All religions are accepted by freemasons: the only people not welcome are atheists. Masons recognise a duty of citizenship and of making a contribution to the family and society. The Knights Templar are not a main part of the masonic belief but they are a secondary unit of the organisation.

The fundamental rules first laid down in the book of constitutions still apply to this day. The dress code is usually a dark suit, tie, white shirt and black shoes.

The main masonic museum is in Great Queen Street, London the Masonic Museum in St Peter's Place, Canterbury will reopen again in 2012.



Dover Masonic Hall

OCTOBER MEETING

2nd Talk

Behind the Scenes at Dover Museum

A talk by Samantha Harris *reported by Terry Sutton*

The time is coming when people will be able to stay at home and, with their computers, see on the screen the many digitalised artefacts held at Dover Museum.

This was told to us at our public meeting held at St Mary's parish centre in October when one of our two guest speakers was Miss Samantha Harris, the museum's assistant curator.

Miss Harris also explained that Dover district ratepayers now have to pay to visit Dover Museum like everyone else, thanks to an EU ruling. Until now local people, because they were paying for the museum through council tax, had free admission when they proved they were local residents. Apparently the EU ruled the free admission discriminated against non-locals!

Samantha reported that only five per cent of the museum's collection of artefacts was on display to the public because of space reasons. She told of the establishment of Dover museum by the Philosophical Institute in 1836 (mainly concerned with lectures), its setting up in the old Market Hall in the Market Square in 1849, war damage transfer to Ladywell in 1942 and then back to the Square in 1989. One expansion at the museum was in 1999 with the display of the Dover



Students at work in the gallery and examining boat remains
©Dover Museum

Bronze Age Boat in its special gallery that created national interest.

The first donations to the museum were mainly natural history specimens with the first donor being the mayor, Councillor Edward P. Thompson, according to the gift book. His donations included 470 specimens of vertebrate zoology and 50 fossils. One of the museum's prize exhibits was a model of a ship made by French prisoners-of-war donated in 1894 by a Captain Lang.

Forty per cent of the museum's visitors were school groups and they dealt with about 60 enquiries a month, especially from those researching their family history. They were digitalising a number of artefacts, including paintings and photos, so that eventually they could be viewed on home computers.



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Regeneration ... Jeremy Cope

I suggest you read Pat Sherratt's Report of the Planning Sub-Committee, particularly that section which deals with Section 215 of the 1990 Planning Act. It sounds boring but it can be a very useful tool for any local authority that wants to stop towns such as Dover from becoming run down. As Pat notes there are examples of its very effective use but Dover District Council has so far resisted its implementation in our town. If Dover becomes run down what chance quality regeneration from outside sources? Our sub-committee is working with the Society's planners to pressure the Council into action but no prizes for guessing the initial response, "The Council does not have the resources" or perhaps "budget cuts". However not a reason to give up the fight!

Your sub-committee met DDC's Roger Walton and Richard Pollard to raise some of our concerns including seafront toilets, the Lindemann plaque, restoration of Connaught Park pond, cleaning contracts, why can't enforcement officers extend their duties from traffic fines to include litter and anti social behaviour, the new rubbish collection system and flower beds and planters? The response was positive and I feel reasonably confident we are talking the same language, but all the time I get the feeling that council officers

are doing their best with very limited resources. We will continue to work with and lobby the council to get answers and to put our point of view. On a more mundane front we also contact the council if there is undue litter in particular places and I have to say their contractors respond quickly. Are our litter louts getting better - I hardly dare say it but Barton Path is much better and Alan Sencicle who picks up rubbish has noted an improvement around Charlton Green.

Both Joan Liggett and Maureen Morris continue to work on researching listed buildings and publishing results in the newsletter with the aim of both publicising our rich history and where appropriate highlighting neglect.

We continue to badger on public paths and street trees but you will not be surprised that KCC has resource problems.

One very positive matter, Dover Town Council has an ambition plan to which the Society has responded. Although in the early stages the plan sets out aims to deal with Dover's problems and although town/parish councils have limited powers a combination of effective use of their budgets and persistent lobbying should produce results. We will be following action on the plan and helping where the Society considers it appropriate.

The work of the

PLANNING

Sub-Committee

Report by

PATRICK SHERRATT

Well, never a dull moment as so many planning issues descend upon Dover. Just unveiled is the new St James's (DTIZ) scheme that encompasses smaller retail units than the original ASDA project. We have made comments with regard to this scheme, in particular the quality of the build to be delivered as well as landscaping. I think all will be pleased to see the DTIZ scheme move forward with the removal of the number one eyesore in Dover.

Good news, at last, the Buckland Mill development is starting. This is a much overdue scheme that has sadly seen the deterioration of a magnificent building whilst it remained empty.

On the horizon is the highly controversial Western Heights Scheme and we all await more detail, as whilst we must protect our heritage we must not close the door to regeneration opportunities in an ever changing world and must ensure that if any development is permitted that it enhances our rich heritage.

Our Chair and Vice Chair have with the assistance of some Planning Committee members evaluated the "Draft National Planning Framework" and the "Local Government Resource

Review - Proposals for Business Rates Retention".

Full details of our response can be found on our Dover Society website. Our general feeling with the revised planning consultation was that it concentrates very much on "new build" and fails to resolve a major problem in Dover with regard to bringing empty buildings into use. The new planning proposals only give financial incentives to local authorities for "new build". We would like to see section 215 (see below) as a mandatory enforcement by local authorities.

The business rates retention proposals are what many local authorities have sought for some time in that such rates should come direct into the local authority and not central government coffers. This is seen as an incentive to expand businesses. Communities however with a low level business base could be disadvantaged and we have drawn attention to this potential problem.

This brings me on to my favourite planning subject "Section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990". This is a tool local authorities are able to use and in the introduction to the act it states "If it appears that

the amenity of part of their area is being adversely affected by the condition of neighbouring land and buildings they may serve notice on the owner requiring that the situation be remedied".

Our local authority (Dover District Council) has regrettably not used this method of enforcement to improve the town of Dover. Having raised this on many occasions over the last four years with DDC it is stated to be too costly - in particular legal costs. I have recently visited one local authority (Hastings) which since 2000 has served 500 such notices; they started with conservation areas/listed buildings and town centre and in 10 years now cover a wider area. The visual improvement to their town is incredible and is reflected in the overall street scene. Over 90% of notices served are actioned without any legal redress. Of the remaining 10% Hastings has not lost one case when court action has been required

and all legal costs have been recovered through the court.

Government guidelines mention the use of Section 215 to assist in regeneration and as a town councillor of Dover Town Council (DTC) I am seeking DTC to press DDC to start using Section 215 in order to enhance the quality of our town. Regeneration is not just the shiny new build but ensuring that existing buildings are also of a high standard.

Hastings also ensures that when notices are served the owners are "named and shamed". Like Dover they have property owners who have a portfolio of properties that are often all in a similar condition and strict action over one property spurs the property owner to improve other eyesore ones.

We have given members assistance on planning matters and again our assistance is giving unbiased views and points individuals in the right direction as outlined in the August magazine. Since the last magazine comments have been made in respect of nine planning applications.



Snoops ©Alan Lee

*One of a series of articles covering the lives of
Dovorians and local events of international renown*

William Henry East

By Lorraine Sencicle B.A. (econ) hons

1926 was, as far as many political-economy historians are concerned, a watershed year. Although the General Strike which started on 3rd May divided the country, the events that led up to it and how the situation was handled was a major learning curve. When the economy, through outside forces, sank to its lowest ebb in the early 1930s what had been learned played a major economic and political role.

However for some individuals caught up the events appertaining to the General Strike the results were devastating, none more so than for the Mayor of Dover at the time, William Henry East.

William, from a Yorkshire family, came to Dover in 1878 to take up the post as Headmaster of Dover's Art school. He had exhibited at the Royal Academy of Arts and was, in 1896-97, elected Chairman of the Society of Art Masters. He married Emma, a Yorkshire lass, in 1880 and they bought a house in Maison Dieu Road that they named East-Lee, now a guesthouse under the same name.



Mr. W. H. East.

William East c1890s

The Art School had recently moved into the Drill Hall, owned by Dover Harbour Board in the then Northampton Street. The accommodation was one room on the upper floor and there were 171 fee-paying pupils. Most of these came from poor backgrounds, holding down full time (60 hours a week) jobs and determined to better themselves.

The school was run as a charity but the total income was only £263. The teaching staff, although well meaning, had little understanding of application



East-Lee Guest House ©Lorraine Sencicle

and art appreciation. The previous year 112 students had submitted 2,433 pieces of work for public examination but only 24 pieces passed.

As part of the deal for the room, the Harbour Board insisted on a professional and on William's arrival the school was renamed the Municipal School of Science and Art. It was then officially opened, with great pomp, by the Earl of Granville, the then Lord Warden. Although it was said that the appointment of William was through his strong Masonic connections, it was inspirational. The exam results, year on year, improved. By 1892, the school was considered one of the best outside of London and the Corporation agreed to fund it. William lost no time in persuading them to invest in a purpose built combined Art and Technical School.

On the assurance that William would remain the Principal, Kent County Council (KCC) gave a grant of £12,000 and the Corporation borrowed £11,000, repayable over thirty years. They purchased land in Ladywell for £3,000 and the contract was given to local builder, William Bromley. The architect was J.S. Chappel, who had worked with William Burges, the designer of Connaught Hall.

In 1894, the Mayor and Mayoress of Dover, Sir William and Lady Crundall opened the new school. By 1903,



Technical College and Connaught Hall, Ladywell ©Alan Sencicle

students were successful in obtaining scholarships to the Royal College of Art. One of them was Reginald Goulden - designer of the Dover's War Memorial.

Two years earlier, in 1901, William put forward the case for providing secondary education for the more academic boys. At the time, the Education Bill was going through Parliament and if passed, schools and Dover College governors had made it clear that they would remain private. William wanted an equivalent school for Dover's pupil population, subsidised by the state. In 1903 what eventually would become the Dover Boys Grammar School opened in the basement of the Ladywell premises.

William retired in 1920. With Emma and a son who survived World War I and two daughters, he was entertained by students, past and present, of Dover's

Art and Technical school in Connaught Hall. The Mayor supported by other dignitaries also attended and William was presented with an oxidised silver rose-bowl and an illuminated address in book form.

Although he planned to spend the remainder of his life painting and devoted to his beloved Emma and family William was active in the Masonic lodge. It was possibly there that he was persuaded, in August 1922, to stand for the council in an unopposed seat in Castle Ward. On election, he was assigned to the committee dealing with the municipal Electricity Company, eventually becoming the Chairman.

At the time the country was sliding further into an economic depression. This was reflected in the increasing number of electricity failures due to the old plant wearing out with little money to replace it. The government's Electricity Commissioners suggested a cable link between Dover and Folkestone but William's committee decided instead to seek a loan. With this, they bought a 1500-kilowatt 3-phase 50-cycle turbo alternator costing £24,800.

In 1924, they bought a new boiler costing £10,000, which forced an increase in the price of electricity provided to their customers. William publicly stated that the increase would have been greater if they had bought home produced coal rather than imported... which did not go down well with the local coal mining community. Cheap imported coal had led to short-time working, wage cuts and unemployment in the domestic mining industry.

On 9th November 1925 William was elected Mayor but tension throughout the country due to these wage cuts was mounting. In the spring of 1926, due to the strength of sterling, the price of imported coal fell and a Royal Commission recommended a further cut in the miners' wages. The first general strike in British history began at midnight on 3 May 1926. Out of fear of a Bolshevik type revolution, a State of Emergency was declared.

The country was immediately divided into areas with arrangements run by Civil Commissioners. In Dover, this was the 78-year-old Mayor, William East. Attitudes in the town towards the strike were divided. Lady Violet Astor, the wife of Dover's MP, was reported as saying, "those miners wriggling again - can't those earthworms keep still?" Five hundred locals answered Mayor East's call for volunteers to man strategic places such as the electricity and gas works, the railway station and the post office.

On the other hand, under the leadership of the Kent Miner's secretary, John Elks, the Dover Central Strike Committee was set up. This included Bill Newman, whose son of the same name was active in local politics up until recently. The railway and tram workers came out on strike followed by workers at Buckland paper mill and the Packet Yard. The second day saw Palmer's Connaught Coachbuilders joining the strike and by the end of that day, most workers in other Dover industries were on strike.

Throughout the strike, William had hardly slept and caught a 'bit of a cold.'


At mid-day on Wednesday 12th May, the strike was called off and William, on behalf of Dover Corporation, sent a letter of congratulations to Stanley Baldwin, the Prime Minister. Over the next few days, he put in many hours getting the town 'back to normal.'

On 25th May, he and Emma were guests of honour at the Boys' County School sports day even though he still had the cold. The following weekend they cancelled all engagements but by the Monday William had developed pneumonia, he died on Wednesday

2nd June. The funeral, at St Mary's where William had been a churchwarden, was followed burial in Charlton Cemetery. On 26th October

1926 the Corporation resolved that for 'eminent services rendered... particularly in conjunction with her late husband during the period of his Mayoralty... Emma East be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the Borough.' She was the first woman to be so honoured.

This article was first published in the Dover Mercury.



Borough of Dover.

DEATH OF HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR

The funeral of the late Mayor is to take place on Monday, the 7th inst. The first portion of the service will be held in St. Mary's Church, commencing at 2.30 p.m., and the interment will take place in Charlton Cemetery.

It is suggested that all shops should be closed on the day in question from 2 to 3.30 p.m.

R. E. Knocker,

* * * * *

Officers' New Barracks

DOVER CASTLE

BY ROY PORTER, English Heritage Territory Properties Curator (South)

Since its construction in the mid-19th century, the Officers' New Barracks has loomed large over the southern half of Dover Castle. Without doubt the grandest Victorian building to survive in the castle, it was designed to provide accommodation for the officers garrisoned there. When first completed in 1858 it afforded the officers a degree of comfort which must have been the envy of the other ranks accommodated elsewhere in the castle.

During the 1850s the castle garrison expanded, partly because of its use by

returning troops after the Crimean War, and this together with concerns about the sanitary arrangements in existing barracks resulted in the construction of new accommodation for the soldiers throughout the castle.

The Officers' New Barracks were a product of this provision of accommodation. Preparation for the new building began in 1855, when plans were made for clearing the ground for it. This involved the removal of earlier structures and widespread landscaping. The site of the barracks was excavated to

provide for the basement of the building, while further landscaping created terraces to the north on which sat the associated stables, further to the north-east, another terrace for an ordnance store.

Responsibility for planning both the landscaping work and the basic design and arrangement of the new buildings fell to George Arnold, who was a clerk in the Royal Engineers. Arnold is the unsung hero of the barracks, often overlooked because the outward appearance of the building and much of its detailing was designed by Anthony Salvin, a leading architect of the 19th century with extensive experience of working in English castles such as Norwich, Windsor, Carisbrooke and the Tower of London. At the Officers' New Barracks, Salvin was employed to design the external elevations of the building. Essentially Salvin's Gothic elevations

were wrapped around Arnold's internal plan. Salvin employed a Tudor Gothic revival style in the design of his elevations, and although the predominant use of Perpendicular motifs found little parallel with other buildings on the site, the use of Gothic was a natural nod to the medieval castle. Decoration and detailing of the principal public rooms were also designed by Salvin, as were the fireplaces and window shutters used throughout the building.

The Officers' New Barracks were constructed between December 24 1856 and June 30 1858 at a cost of £35,800. The 79th Foot Regiment was responsible for the extensive groundworks associated with the creation of the terraces on which the barracks and its ancillary buildings stood, while a local builder, Mr Moxon of Dover, was contracted to carry out the work. Built of



Central Block ©Roy Porter

brick and faced externally with Kentish ragstone rubble and limestone dressings, the building was planned on an axial arrangement running east-west, and consisted of five visually distinct blocks. The terminal and central ones each had four storeys (including the basement), while the intermediate blocks had three storeys including the basement.

The building's principal elevation faced south over the cliffs towards the sea, while to the rear were gardens and paths running up to stables on the terrace above. All except one of the main entrances to the building were in the south façade and this side of the building received the richest architectural embellishment. Here Salvin used occasional crenellated parapets, tall gables, corbelled chimney stacks, a number of sunken panels displaying the initials VR and carved beasts flanking the doorway to the central block to



South Elevation ©Roy Porter

enliven his design and create a show front for the building.

The central block contained the main entrance, reached by several steps and leading to a hallway containing a fine timber staircase rising to the first floor. On either side of the hallway were the grandest rooms in the building, the anteroom to the east and the mess to the west. In time the latter room gave its name to the whole building which is still known colloquially as the Officers' Mess.

Both the mess and the anteroom had large stone fireplaces with moulded and traceried surrounds, panelling and imposing doorcases. They also had the grandest windows in the building, the five-light bay window of the anteroom being particularly fine. At the north end of the central block lay a series of ancillary service rooms.

The other blocks provided accommodation. The one to the immediate east of the central block had a single doorway in its south elevation which led to a suite of rooms over the ground and first floors in its western half occupied by the commanding officer. This suite was entirely self-contained, the only entrance or exit being the door in the south front,



*Queen Victoria's Crest over door of Officers' Mess
©Alan Lee*

and was not accessible from within the building. A similar situation was found in the block to the west of the central block, where the eastern half provided self-contained suites of rooms for two field officers (one on each of the ground and first floors). The rest of the space above the basement provided the general accommodation for officers. Each officer had a two-room suite (sitting room and bedroom) accessed from a communal corridor. The commanding officer and field officers had WC facilities in their respective apartments but WC's for the other officers appears to have been limited originally to two WC's in each of the end blocks.

The use of the basement reflected the functions of the rooms above. Beneath the areas of general officer accommodation the basement rooms provided accommodation for the officers' servants, while the basement rooms below the commanding officer and field officers rooms housed their servants and their private kitchens, larders and, in the case of the Commanding Officer, his private wine cellar. In the central block, below the mess and anteroom, the basement housed the main kitchen, scullery, wine cellar and the cook's room. Servants' WC facilities were located outside the main building, in the area on the north side of the barracks.

Although grand and showy, when first built the Officers' New Barracks had some major teething problems. Shortly after construction was completed damp became an issue, with some rooms at the west end of the building so badly affected that the wallpaper came off the

walls and a medical board declared several rooms unfit for occupation. That this should occur in a building so relatively expensive was doubly serious and Salvin was called before a committee established by the Secretary of State for War to investigate ways of improving the means of constructing barracks. Salvin explained that he had merely provided designs for the building, had played no active role in its construction and laid any blame for the damp on either poor materials or bad workmanship. (Salvin's curt replies to the questions of the committee members suggest that he did not enjoy having his competence questioned.) The damp problem was combated by repointing and rendering the affected areas of the building.

The Officers' New Barracks continued to accommodate soldiers until the departure of the garrison from Dover Castle in 1958. After this time much of the building remained vacant, although parts were used by the Immigration Appeal Service in the 1970s and 1980s. Plans to use the building as a visitor centre resulted in the removal of most of the internal walls at its east end. Unfortunately, the economic climate of the late 1970s meant that the proposed use was never introduced and, while parts are used as a curatorial store, much of it remains empty. English Heritage and Kent County Council are currently working together on proposals for using the building as an archaeological resource centre to house Kent's rich archaeological collections. Meanwhile the Officers' New Barracks will continue to be a dominant presence at the south end of Dover Castle.

DOVER TOWN HALL

Guided Tours and History Room

Programme to 31st March 2012 inclusive

A new History Room and a regular programme of guided tours have been created at Dover Town Hall as a pilot project by the Dover Town Hall Refurbishment Steering Group to improve the interpretation of this magnificent 800 year old building in the heart of Dover.

Visitors are welcome to see new displays and resource materials, which have been placed in the original 13th century chapel of the hall.

The Town Hall Steering Group is made up of representatives from;

- Dover District Council
- Dover Town Council
- The Dover Society
- Thanet Leisure Force

Guided Tours

Tours of this impressive historic building last about an hour and are organized by The Dover Society.

On every Wednesday morning from 10am until 12 noon. Visitors will be able to join a guided tour of the building led by volunteer guides from The Dover Society. There will be a small charge of £1 for adults (children under 16 free). Dover Town Hall is a working building and tour routes may vary depending on functions.

Please ring the Dover Visitor Information Centre (01304 205108) to check tours are running before making a special visit.

Additional tours may be available on some Saturday mornings as announced in the press and on the website.

Group Bookings

If you would like to bring a group (minimum of 10 people) to tour the Town Hall we would be happy to see if we can run a special tour for you either on a Wednesday or at other times of the week if there are no booked functions in the hall.

Please contact Derek Leach on telephone: 01304 823926
e-mail: derekriverdale@btinternet.com to discuss this.

The History Room

The History Room will be open from 10am to 4pm on every Wednesday until 31st March 2012. Please give your feedback about the tours and displays in the History Room, on the cards supplied, so that we can improve future visits.



Remembrance Sunday

13th November 2011

Marine Station War Memorial



Dover War Memorial



DOVER TATTOO 2012

by Alan Lee

The 2012 Dover Tattoo will celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd June 2012 in Fort Burgoyne and an exciting programme is taking shape. This venue was used for a number of sell-out tattoos in the 1980s and is a site of considerable historic importance.



The Ministry of Defence has approved the grant application for the 2012 Dover Tattoo and awarded the full amount of £85,000. Brigadier Wolsey made the announcement on Thursday 2nd November 2011 when the Press were invited to Constable's Tower.

**Friday 1st June and
Saturday 2nd June 2012
8pm: DOVER TATTOO**

An impressive programme of performers is already secured which, on both days, will include:-

The spectacular Royal Signals White Helmets Motorcycle Display Team, the thrilling Tigers Freefall Parachute Display team from The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, your county regiment and Gurkha Kukri displays. Pageantry and music will be by the Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas, the Pipes and Drums of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the Kohima TA Band, the massed bands of Kent Wing Air Training Corps, the Dover and Folkestone Air Cadet Sea Cadet Massed Bands and the Tonbridge School CCF. The Special Services are planning a full scale training exercise and the Army a full scale assault. These will provide an exciting and explosive insight into how they would deal with a real terrorist attack.

**Saturday 2nd June 2012
11am to 5pm: FAMILY FUN DAY**

This will include military life today, re-enactment displays and themed events. There will be interactive and static displays and refreshment and memorabilia stalls. Something for all the family.

**Sunday, 3rd June 2012:
DOVER MUSIC FESTIVAL**

This event is aimed at younger people, but all ages who like modern music are invited to attend. Tickets for this event go on sale from 5th November 2011.

Tickets:

- Buy 10 get one free £60.00
- On the website £6.00
- Sponsors' will qualify for a special discount
- On the gate £10.00

Tattoo Ticket Information:

Tickets for the 2012 Dover Tattoo will be available for all three days on a first come, first served basis. They will be on sale through the tattoo website from 5th January 2012 - but can be reserved in advance (a great present for Christmas). Alternatively contact details at the bottom of the article.

TICKETS - PRICE PER SHOW

	Adult	Concession	Child
Covered Stands			
B & C (rows 1-7)	£25	£22	£20
Covered Stands			
B & C (rows 8-12)	£20	£17	£15
Uncovered Stands			
A & D (rows 8-12)	£15	£12	£10
Uncovered Stands			
A & D (rows 8-12)	£10	£7	£5
Saturday Fun Day	£3	£2	£1

Businesses and individuals are invited to become sponsors of the 2012 Dover Tattoo through one of four plans - bronze, silver, gold or platinum. Gold and Platinum sponsors will also benefit from advertising on all other event communications and promotional material details are as follows:-

Bronze (non-refundable) - £50

(2 prime row tickets).

Sponsors will be given a link to their website which will rotate with the other bronze sponsors and an acknowledgement in event A4 full colour souvenir programme.

Silver - £500

(4 prime row tickets).

Sponsors will be given a link to their website which will rotate with the other silver sponsors. Silver sponsors exposure on website 10 times over

bronze sponsors and an acknowledgement in event A4 full colour souvenir programme.

Gold - £5,000

(8 prime row tickets).

Sponsors will be given a link to their website which will rotate with the other gold sponsors. Gold sponsors exposure on the website 10 times over silver sponsors. They will appear on all mailings, advertising, arena and approach barriers and receive half page in the event A4 full colour souvenir programme.

Platinum - £10,000

(16 prime row tickets).

Sponsors will be given a link to their website which will rotate with other platinum sponsors. Platinum sponsors exposure on website 10 times over gold sponsors. They will appear on all mailings, advertising, arena and approach barriers and they will be given options on position over gold sponsors. Plus full page in the event A4 full colour souvenir programme.

There will also be opportunities for stalls and military re-enactments over the three day event.

For more information about the event, and how you can get involved, please get in touch...

Email: 2012dovertattoo@gmail.com

Write to: Dover Tattoo, 4 Harold Street, Dover, Kent. CT16 1SF

Tel: 01304 201711

The event will generate funds for charities including the Army Benevolent Fund, 'SSAFA', the National War Memorial on the Western Heights in Dover, and Help for Heroes.

Dover and the India Mutiny

by Alan Lee

Standing at the junction of New Bridge, Cambridge Road, Waterloo Crescent and Camden Crescent is a largely unknown monument. This was erected by the 1st Battalion the 60th Foot (The King's Royal Rifle Corps) widely known just as the 60th Rifles. On the monument are the following inscriptions

North face:

IN MEMORY OF
COMRADES WHO FELL
DURING THE INDIA CAMPAIGNS
OF 1857, 1858, 1859.

ERECTED BY THE
FIRST BATTALION 60TH RIFLES
AUGUST 1861.

East face: OUDE

West face: ROHILCUND

South face: DELHI
CELER ET AUDAX

The Latin *Celer et Audax* is the regimental motto and means *Swift and Sure*.

The monument is 2000mm by 2000mm by 5500mm high; it is made of stone and is memorial number 16451.

Part way up one corner it can be seen that a small piece of the stone has been chipped away. This happened on the 23rd January 1916 during the first moonlight air raid over Dover.



Photos©Alan Lee

One of the nine bombs dropped from a German seaplane fell in the road by Cambridge Terrace and a piece of shrapnel hit the monument.

No names are recorded on the monument but, another one at Beonja Khasra, India, erected by the 60th Rifles does have. It has eleven members of the 60th Rifles listed who were killed nearby in action against the mutineers of the Bengal Army on 30th and 31st May 1857, four men who died of heatstroke during the fight and one man wounded on the 31st who died later at Meerat on 4th June 1857.

During the Indian Mutiny 182 Victoria Crosses, including two posthumously, were awarded to members of the British Armed Forces, British Indian Army and civilians under their command. The most V.C.'s that have ever been awarded in a single day was at the Second Relief of Lucknow on 16th November 1857. The 1st Battalion the 60th Foot (The King's Royal Rifle Corps) won eight of these, seven at Delhi and one at Bareilly. A ninth was awarded to Ensign Phillipp posthumously.

They were:

Bugler William Sutton:

13th September 1857 Delhi, buried Ighon, Kent.

Private James Thompson:

9th July 1857 Delhi, buried Walsall, Staffordshire.

Colour-Serjeant George Waller:

14th September 1857 Delhi, buried Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex.

Private John Divine:

10th September 1857 Delhi, buried Penzance, Cornwall.

Colour-Serjeant Stephen Garvin:

23rd June 1857 Delhi, buried Chesterton, Cambridgeshire.

Lieutenant Alfred Spencer Heathcote:

June to September 1857 Siege of Delhi, buried Bowral, Australia.

Private Samuel Turner:

19th June 1857 Delhi, buried Meerut, India.

Private Valentine Bambrick:

6th May 1858 Bareilly, buried Finchley, London. He was stripped of his VC after being convicted of assault and theft of a comrade's medals. He committed suicide in Pentonville Prison, London on 1st April 1864. Nowadays a holder cannot be stripped of the VC no matter what crime has been committed.

Ensign Everard Aloysius Lisle

Phillipps:

15th January 1857 Delhi, buried Delhi, India. He died on 18th September 1857 in Delhi. He was posthumously awarded the VC on 15th January 1907. Originally you had to survive to receive the VC. This is the earliest a VC has been backdated to. He was originally in the 11th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry but he joined the 60th Foot after the 11th mutinied.

During the Indian Mutiny 2392 British subjects and servicemen died including 170 from the 1st Battalion the 60th which distinguished itself at both Lucknow & Delhi.



The outbreak of the Indian Mutiny in 1857 found the 1st Battalion at Meerut, where they narrowly escaped a plot to massacre them while unarmed at church parade. Having driven the mutineers from the town they marched under the command of Colonel 'Jones the Avenger' to besiege Delhi.

During actions at Delhi the 60th formed a lasting alliance with the 2nd Gurkhas (the Sirmoor Goorhas) which endure to the present day. Sirmoor (or Sarmour) was a small independent kingdom in the Punjab founded in 1616.

One famous battle fought by the 2nd Gurkhas was the defence of Hindu Rao's house just outside Delhi. On the 10th June 1857 some 500 mutineers

came out of the city towards them. Major Reid with seven companies of his Sirmoors, two companies of the 60th Rifles and 150 Guides together with two artillery pieces advanced towards them.

The British were unsure about the loyalty of all native troops but the Gurkhas were to prove their loyalty in spectacular fashion. The mutineers called out, "We expect the Goorhas to join us. We won't fire." "Oh yes, we're coming to join you now," shouted the Goorhas. Smiling they approached to within 20 paces, then opened fire and killed 20 to 30 mutineers. Under constant fire for more than 3 months they defeated 26 separate attacks from the city and their loyalty was never again questioned. Out of 9 of their officers only one survived and they lost 327 men out of 490.

In the final assault on the Kashmir Gate the 60th gave covering fire as the Goorhas stormed the breach before themselves taking the Royal Palace after six days of street fighting.

In the campaign the rear party at Meerut maintained the tradition for innovation by forming an elephant corps for pacification of the surrounding countryside.

The Indian Mutiny has also been referred to as "The Indian Rebellion of 1857", "India's First War of Independence", "The Revolt of 1857" and "The Sepoy Mutiny".

Today's Regiment

Formed in 1756 as 'The Royal

American Regiment of Foot' the 60th fought the French in British North America. It was at the Battle of Quebec in 1759 that the regiment was given the motto 'Celer et Audax' (Swift & Bold) by General Wolfe.

The Fifth Battalion

In 1797 a 5th Battalion of the 60th was raised under Baron Francis de Rottenburg. His treatise on riflemen and light infantry formed the basis of Sir John Moore's training on his return to England, in 1803, to command a brigade at Shorncliffe camp near Folkestone. This was the first British unit to be dressed in the green jacket and armed with the rifle in place of the smooth-bore musket and it represented the first British attempt at developing specialised

light infantry for the European battlefield.

In 1966 the 60th along with the 43rd, 52nd and the 95th became the 1st, 2nd and 3rd battalions of the Royal Green Jacket Regiment (RGJ).

Then in 2007 the RGJ Regiment amalgamated with the remaining Light Infantry regiments to form the five regular and two territorial battalions of The Rifles, the present regiment.

An indication that men of the regiment were stationed in Dover in the thirties is to be found in the secret wartime tunnels at Dover Castle where someone has carved KRRC 1936 into the chalk wall. KRRC stands for King's Royal Rifle Corps.

Dover's Disgrace

When will something be done?!

Just some of the eyesores around town.

There are many more.

Old Crypt ©A.Lee



Old Labour Exchange ©P.Sherratt



Old cinema, Castle Street ©P.Sherratt



CONNAUGHT HALL
Dover Town Hall

4 FILM SHOWS

**Monday 5th March &
Tuesday 6th March 2012**
3.00pm & 7.30pm

2011 Dover Film by Mike McFarnell
1961 Dover Film by Ray Warner
Result of Short Film Contest

Adults	£3.50
Senior Citizens	£3.00
Children	£2.00

Tickets can be purchased in advance from:
Dover Visitor Information Centre and
4 Harold Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1SF
Tel: 01304 201711

* * * * *

Monday 5th March 2012
5.30pm to 6.15pm

Dover Film Festival
Short film competition

* * * * *

Tuesday 6th March 2012
10am to 11.30am

First Public Preview 'Watermark'
Documentary about Buckland Paper Mill

Free Admission but seats must be reserved

FREE PROGRAMME

Available from January 2012

For a copy of the 2012 programme and
to reserve seats for 'Watermark' send
a stamp addressed envelope to
The Dover Film Festival Society,
4 Harold Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1SF

* * * * *



**STONE HALL
EXHIBITION**

**Monday 5th March &
Tuesday 6th March 2012**
1.00pm - 8.50pm

Free admission

Organised by
Dover Film Festival Society

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

Dover's Caves and Tunnels

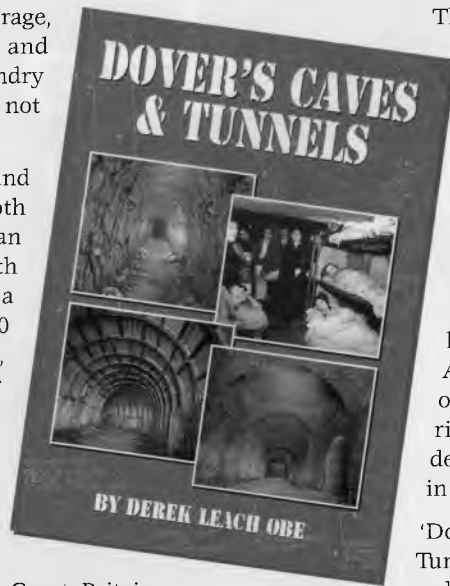
by Derek Leach

Having researched the development of the town and streets of Dover in his 'Streets of Dover', Derek Leach's latest local history book explores Dover's underground heritage.

The Dover area is riddled with caves and tunnels constructed over many centuries, often for military purposes but also for civilian use as storage, dwellings, shelters and industry such as a foundry and mushroom growing - not to mention smuggling!

Dover's caves, tunnels and underground works, both old and new, played an important part in both world wars. In such a strategic position only 20 miles from the continent, Dover has been under threat of attack for centuries, but always from the sea. The 20th century saw a completely new threat from the air. The first bomb to be dropped on Great Britain fell in Dover on Christmas Eve 1914. The existing protection on all sides was made obsolete by bombs and shells. During the Second World War, Dover's population was closer to the front line than anywhere else in Britain. Nowhere else could civilians see German troops on the French coast with long range guns able to bombard Dover. By going underground people could be safe from attack.

Times and needs change. What was once a sophisticated defence system becomes obsolete and disused. Excavations so laboriously made are abandoned and forgotten with nature soon covering all trace, but underground they still exist, deteriorating and potentially dangerous to those who might explore them.



This book attempts to describe most of the caves, tunnels and underground works in the Dover area, their uses and people's memories of them. Those at Dover Castle are now a major tourist attraction; others are known only to a few. All are part and parcel of Dover's incredible, rich heritage and deserve to be honoured in this humble way.

'Dover's Caves and Tunnels' has 120 pages and is packed with 150 illustrations. It is on sale now at £12.99 from W H Smith and the Museum in Dover and in Deal at Tyler's.

The book can be obtained on line from www.dover-books.co.uk

Signed copies are also available from Derek Leach. Tel: 01304 823926

E-mail: derekrivertdale@btinternet.com



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Dover's Charities for the Sick & Poor

Derek Leach

Prior to the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16th century, any caring for the sick and poor was seen primarily as the task for religious houses. Whilst a series of Poor Laws thereafter provided a last resort for the sick, poor and aged, local benefactors also provided relief and some left bequests to benefit the unfortunate. This article considers how individuals in Dover have done this over the centuries, either by leaving money and investments to the mayor and council and other trustees to administer or to church authorities - sometimes on condition that their graves and memorials were maintained. Not surprisingly for a seaport, the beneficiaries were often poor widows of mariners drowned at sea. The information comes from Hasted's *History of Kent, Caring for Dover's Poor* by Derek Leach, The Dover Society Newsletter 61 and from some copies of St. Mary's Church documents in the possession of the late Joe Harman.

Dover Municipal Charities

The origins of the Dover Almshouse Fund go back to at least the 16th century when the traditional role of the religious houses of giving some help to the sick and poor was removed by the Dissolution. An almshouse was founded administered by the Mayor and others.

Various benefactors over the centuries ensured its continuance and expansion. The Dover Almshouse Fund and a number of old Dover charities were merged into the Dover Municipal Charities during the 19th century. Included were the Gorely Almshouses, the James Neild Charity, the Jonathan Osborn Charity, the Coronation Pensions Charity, the Ann Booth and Mark Wills for Poor Widows Charity, the Gilham Gift, the Henry Matson Charity, the Hugesson's Charity, the George Crowhurst Rubie Pension Charity, the Needle Charity and the William Burchfield Charity. Dover's Battle of Britain Memorial Fund was added after the Second World War and the Grigg Christmas Boot Gift Charity in 1998. Details of some are given below.

Hugesson's Charity

By deed dated 20th September 1633, James Hugesson gave £150 to the corporation, the interest to be applied at Michaelmas in every year, to 'placing forth two or three good male children' as apprentices. From 1701 £3 every year was distributed equally among six poor widows of Freemen. Each received this for life. The amount was paid for some years out of the Borough Fund to the Almshouse Charity Trustees. The reason for the alteration in the charity is unknown.

Ann Booth & Mark Wills Charity

Ann Booth in her will of 1664 gave £100 which was invested in land and the income of £13. 5s divided amongst six poor widows. Mark Wills in 1721 left certain lands with the profit going to six poor widows each of whom received £2 a year. The charity was at one time administered by 'Messrs. Fector, Gunman and others'.

James Neild Charity

Under a trust deed in 1810, James Neild transferred £800 of stock. The dividends were to be distributed in bread amongst debtors in Dover Castle Prison and in procuring their discharge. When this prison was abolished the charity was merged with the Almshouse Charity.

Jonathan Osborn Charity

Jonathan Osborn, mayor in 1816, in his will of 1819, directed the Corporation to invest £100 in stock and to divide the dividends among paupers of St. Mary's Parish poorhouse - six men and six women. When the new Dover Union Workhouse opened in 1836 and St. Mary's Poorhouse closed the income was transferred to the Dover Almshouse Fund.

Gorely Homes

In 1877 Mrs Susan Gorely paid for ten almshouses to be built just below Cowgate Cemetery. The tenants were also given 3s. 6d a week. She was the wife of Charles Gorely who had a farm in Ladywell. Park Street was laid out on part of the land in 1861. He died in 1874 and she in 1880. Dr. Astley who died, aged 95, in 1907 left £14,000 to the Gorely Almshouses. Henry Hobday of

Buckland Paper Mill provided further funds to extend the homes in 1921.

William Burchfield Charity

William Burchfield gave £2,000 of stock in 1883 with the income to be paid to six 'decayed' i.e. impoverished tradesmen of Dover, elected by the corporation for life.

Battle of Britain Homes

The Battle of Britain Homes, off York Street, were funded from money originally raised to provide a new hospital for Dover possibly at Castlemount, but this never materialised with the arrival of the National Health Service in 1948. In 1955 the High Court ruled that the £34,000 collected could be used for some charitable purpose. Eventually it was decided to build almshouses to replace those which were to be demolished in York Street. The Battle of Britain Homes were built and the tenants of the York Street almshouses moved into them in 1964.

Today, the Municipal Charities of Dover own a substantial number of properties in the town, which produce income to maintain their modern 'almshouses' - not those of yore, most of which were destroyed during the Second World War - but the Battle of Britain Homes, Albany House built in 1993 and the original Gorely Homes.

St. Mary the Virgin Dover Parochial Charities

The various charities of St. Mary's and St. James's churches that benefited the poor (numbered 1 to 31 below) were incorporated into a scheme for their

regulation by the Charity Commissioners in 1956. The scheme was called the St. Mary the Virgin Dover Parochial Charities and the area of benefit was the Borough of Dover. The scheme was managed by trustees - the Vicar of St. Mary's being ex-officio plus a representative of Dover Borough Council and three co-opted trustees. The first co-opted trustees were Beatrice Black, Charles Hawkins and Mabel Egan. The Trustees were allowed to appoint a clerk and to pay him (yes, him) 'such reasonable salary as they think fit'.

The charities numbered 1 to 12 and 21 to 27 were grouped together as Charities for the Poor and those numbered 13 to 20 and 28 to 31 became Charities for Widows.

The Trustees were allowed to spend up to £5 a year toward the upkeep of St. Mary's churchyard and the tombs within the church, whilst the income from the Thomas Beane Charity had to be used for the upkeep of the tomb of Jane Byron and others in Old St. James's Church.

The remainder of the income from the Charities of the Poor could be spent for the benefit of the poor in a number of ways: gifts of bedding, clothing, food, fuel, furniture etc., including aids for the sick; a weekly allowance of not less than 2s. 6d or more than 10s.; money to relieve sickness, infirmity or distress; grants for the sick or infirm in need of rest or change of air to pay for a convalescent holiday or domestic help; travelling expenses for hospital appointments or relatives visiting at hospital; assistance to help any poor

person train to earn their living; subscriptions to almshouses etc., subscriptions to residential homes or hostels for the old, infirm or homeless. In addition up to £28 15s. a year could be spent assisting any female dependant of any seafaring man drowned at sea.

Income from the Charities for Widows could be spent as the Trustees thought fit along the lines of the Charities for the Poor.

In 1949 money, coal and bread were still being distributed. In 1974 £330 was distributed in total including £25 to a housing association and £25 to Age Concern. The balance of £280 went responding to various requests. The annual accounts for 1978 showed payments of £314 including £100 to Dover Old People's Community Centre Trust, £40 to St. Mary's School Welfare Fund and various payments totalling £174.

These ancient charities came to an end in 1998 when the Charity Commissioners approved the winding-up of St. Mary the Virgin Dover Parochial Charities and the disbursement of its assets, valued at £12,000, to other local charities. Age Concern and the Gorely Homes were amongst the beneficiaries.

St. Mary's Parish

1. Thomas Pepper, jurat of Dover and four times mayor, in his will of 1574, gave an annuity of 40s to be distributed equally between the poor of the parishes of our Lady of Dover and Hougham, being income from his manor of Syberston in Hougham.

Originally the money was distributed as sixpenny loaves.

2. Thomas Ellwood, mayor in 1592, in his will of 1605, gave an annuity of 20s. to be paid from the rent of a house in Cannon Street for distribution in bread to the poor of St. Mary's parish on Christmas Eve.

3. Thomas Challice, in his will of 1614, gave an annuity of 10s. to be paid from the rent of The Three Horse Shoes, an inn in Biggin Street, later renamed The Saracen's Head, which was pulled down in 1896 for road widening. It was to be distributed in bread to the poor of the parish on St. James's Day.

4. Jacob Winsor, gentleman of Dover, by his will in 1669, gave his eight tenements, 'in the new buildings in Dover' near the North Pier, to eight poor, aged people of the parish to live in or to be rented out by the Mayor and Jurats, and the rents given to the poor; but, according to Hasted in 1800, 'these tenements having been suffered to fall to ruin, are lost to the poor for ever'. He also gave 24s. a year, being rent from two houses in Bench Street, to be given as bread to the poor of the parish at the door of the church on Christmas Eve. The houses were later demolished by the Corporation which paid 24s. a year to the charity in compensation.

5. Nicholas Cullen, four times mayor, in his will of 1696 gave a cottage with the rent to be distributed in bread; but in 1800 Hasted recorded that 'a poor widow now lives in it rent free'. The cottage became 8 and 9 Mill Lane, which were destroyed by enemy action during the Second World War. The charity received £44 19s. War Damage compensation.

6. William Richards, in his 1701 will, gave £5 a year from the income of Coombe Farm. It was to be given to the poor in bread on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Lady Day, Easter Day, Whitsun Day, Midsummer Day and on the first Sunday every month. It is amazing how far £5 could stretch in those days!

7. John Dekewer, by his will of 1760, gave the sum of £500 and from the interest 4s. was to be distributed every Sunday after church to the poor of the parish; any surplus was to buy coal for handing out on Christmas Eve. The first priority, however, for the charity was to maintain the tomb of Benjamin Devinke, including painting it every eight years. Dekewer was Devinke's executor and Devinke in his will had given £100 toward a parsonage in 1756 provided his tomb was kept in repair. John Dekewer honoured this condition in his own will.

8. Susannah Hammond, in her will proven in 1770, gave the sum of £60 and the annual income of £2. 8s. was to be distributed as bread to the poor on New Year's Day.

9. Thomas Boykett in his will of 1791, left stock to yield £5 a year for bread for the poor.

10. William Burchfield by his will proven in 1889 bequeathed investments (£280 stock and £250 Defence Bonds in 1956) to the Vicar and Churchwardens requiring them to use the income each year at their discretion to benefit the poor of the parish.

11. William Coleman in his will proven in 1911 left stock (£415 in 1956) with the income to be used for the relief of the poor and sick at the discretion of

the Vicar and Churchwardens - The Coleman Charity. This is quite separate from the Richard Coleman Charity.

12. Peter Fector, in his will proven in 1814, left £100 stock with the dividends to be given in equal shares at Christmas to 12 old people of the parish, preferably seamen's widows.

13. Thomas White, twice mayor, by his will of 1669, gave an annuity of £2 from house rent to be given to four poor widows of the parish.

14. Nicholas Cullen, by his will of 1696, gave a house and land on Victualling Quay (later Admiralty Yard) with the annual income to be distributed every New Year's Day to 20 poor widows of the parish, amounting to 13s each. Apparently, when the house was demolished for harbour development the income was lost. Philip Papillon, who died in 1719, added to this Cullen Charity by donating the rent of £7 a year from 43 acres of land near Lydd mortgaged by Nicholas Cullen. This mortgage was eventually paid off and became the freehold property of the charity which was then sold and the money invested. With the increase in income from 1781 the 20 poor widows each received £6. 10s. In 1901 the Charity Commissioners reduced the number of widows benefiting to 10.

15. Ann Jell, by her will proven in 1735, gave an annuity of 40s. from house rent for distribution on New Year's Day to eight poor widows of the parish not receiving charity already.

16. Thomas Knott, by his will of 1777, gave an annuity of 20s from the rent of 1 New Bridge, to be distributed to the 40 poorest widows on St. Thomas's day. This was done in the form of a 6d loaf.

17. Rebecca Saure, by her will of 1808, bequeathed £400 stock with the dividends to be spent every two years repairing her husband's tomb and any surplus in the purchase of coals for 10 poor widows.

18. John Hammond, in his will proven in 1824, bequeathed £100 stock with the income to be given to six poor widows on 17 March, subject to a deduction for upkeep of his grave every 12 years.

19. Thomas Pattenden, the Dover diarist, died in 1817 leaving £850 stock with the dividends to be used maintaining the headstones of his family grave and to use the remainder each half year among the most recent six poor widows (not possessing more than £100 in property), whose husbands had been drowned. He kindly included 5s to be paid each half year to the Vicar and Churchwardens for administering the charity. By 1926 there had been no applicants for a long time and the Charity Commissioners decreed that in future income should be distributed first to not more than six widows of drowned sailors, but if there were none then to six daughters of seafaring fathers drowned at sea and, if none, to any widows whose husbands had drowned.

20. Edward Phillips by his will proven in 1844 bequeathed £400 to provide income for coal and warm clothing to be given each year on Christmas Eve to ten poor widows whose husbands had been lost at sea or otherwise to other old widows.

21. George Finch died in 1828, leaving £100 stock with the dividends to be given to the poor in bread.

St James's Parish

22. Thomas Dawke, shipwright, left £50 in 1703 with the interest to be spent on bread distributed annually to the poor of St. James's Parish.

23. Thomas Beane, mayor in 1749, in his will dated 1764, left £200 in government stock and directed part of the dividends be used for repairing the tomb of Jane Byron and Clement Buck at Old St. James' Church and the remainder spent on bread for the poor.

24. Dame Susannah Booth died in 1822 and left her money to the poor of four parishes that she was acquainted with, including St James' which received £477 in bank stock. St. Mary's was another of the parishes that benefited. Dividends were to be distributed to the poor at Christmas. She had visited Dover occasionally and lived here for a time and was buried in Old St. James' Churchyard. The charity was founded in memory of her daughter, Penelope, who had died when six years old.

25. Alfred Joseph Bushell by his will proven in 1902 gave £100 to be invested for the poor subject to maintenance of his grave and those of his children.

26. Martha Mansfield by her will proven in 1903 gave £20 for the poor of the parish subject to upkeep of her grave.

27. Peter Fector, the banker who died in 1814, bequeathed £200 of shares plus and £100 for the relief of needy seamen with the interest to be divided among 12 old people preferably seamen's widows.

28. George Atherden, in his will of 1875 made in Australia, bequeathed £1,000 to provide money once a year for five poor widows. These payments were

to be made for life unless they misbehaved or left St. James's Parish.

29. Annie Fariah O'Brien, in her will proven in 1927, left £100 for the Rector to invest and to give away as much income 'as he thinks proper during the life of King George V and his issue then living and the survivors of them plus 21 years after the death of such survivors keeping the grave of her husband, herself and her parents in order and putting a cross of flowers on it twice a year'. Any balance was to be given to poor widows at Christmas.

30. Edward Phillips, by his will proven in 1844, bequeathed £400 to provide income for coal and warm clothing to be given each year on Christmas Eve to ten poor widows of St. James' parish whose husbands had been lost at sea or otherwise to other old widows.

31. Elizabeth Newman Igglesden in her will proven in 1875 left £650 stock with income to be given on 1 January each year to six poor widows aged over 65, preferably seamen's widows.

Other bequests for the benefit of the poor

There were many other bequests for the benefit of the poor not included in the Dover Municipal Charities or St. Mary's Parochial Charities schemes, including:

George Bing, (or Bynge) mayor of Dover four times, by his will dated 1604, gave to the churchwardens and overseers of St. Mary's parish an annuity of 20s. to be paid out of his house in the town and to be distributed on Christmas Day to the poorest people of the parish.

John Hewson, by will in 1692, gave £20, the interest to be yearly given to poor widows of this parish; which interest amounting to the sum of 20s per annum, is vested in the parishioners;

Thomas Papillon was a contractor for the navy who bought Acrise Place. He was a Puritan and essayist who contested one of Dover's two parliamentary seats when his religious views were out of favour. Thomas won, but the Mayor declared his opponent the winner on a technicality. Thomas appealed, but his opponent was killed in a naval action and Thomas was appointed MP in 1673, serving the town for 22 years. In his will of 1701 he left £400 'the profits from which were to be used to assist Freeman's sons under 25 to pay for their apprenticeship or setting up their own trade.' Any spare money could be used for the relief of the poor and aged in Dover.

Anthony Church, by his will of 1709, gave £20 to produce income of 20s. a year to be distributed in bread to the poor on Christmas Eve.

Philip Papillon, by deed in 1742, gave land, the income of £17 a year was to be distributed to poor widows every Sunday in the year. Two jurats of the town were required to administer it.

Elisabeth Roalfe, in her will dated 1777, left £400 stock with the income of £12 a year to be distributed to ten poor families not receiving 'constant assistance from the parish'. The charity was administered by six trustees.

Sarah Rice left £700 stock in 1841 with the dividends to be paid to the Mayor and Senior Magistrate of Dover and

spent on the purchase of coals for distribution at Christmas amongst 10 poor widows of Dover seamen.

Richard Vincent Coleman was born in 1831 in the old farmhouse at Priory Farm (now Dover College). The family later moved to The Shrubbery, an old mansion on Crabble Hill. Richard died in 1909 and his will established the R.V. Coleman Convalescent and Nursing Home Trust, using rental income from the building that now occupies The Shrubbery site and investments. The Trust in 2006 spent £43,889 assisting 87 people who were sick, convalescent, disabled or infirm in Dover and the surrounding villages.

PS To complete the picture of St. Mary's and St. James' charities there were others not involved with relieving the poor.

Thomas Toke in 1484 left five acres at Whinless Down and 2 acres at Hougham (1-97 Clarendon Place occupy the site) with the income for church repairs. The Gutter House Charity, predating 1532, gave property for church repairs (4 Biggin Street and 10-14 Biggin Street). The Old Vicarage Charity in existence by 1656 referred to premises opposite St. Mary's Church, possibly an old vicarage, which produced income for church purposes. The property was sold for road widening in the 19th century.

Sophia Charlotte Green-Thompson in 1927 left £100 to St. James' Church provided her sister's grave was maintained and Elizabeth Anne Jazzard left a large gift in 1942 for general church repairs.

The Dover Society Websites

[old] www.doversociety.org

[new] www.doversociety.org.uk

Our website in 2011 has continued to attract an ever increasing number of visits. We have seen an increase from 110 in 2002 to over 20,000 this year. The content is still growing to a level that requires a new more sophisticated ability to handle the data. It will still take some time to achieve the switch-over. Meanwhile both sites will be accessible. The new website has a powerful search facility and the content will be more visible to the search engines.

The Dover Festival www.doverfestival.info

This event, held every four years, leads to an increase in media attention that gives other local events a boost. Bigger and better events are planned for 2012 with the committee working hard to market Dover and enrich the lives of the community. The Queen's Jubilee and the London Olympics are the major events. But Charles Dickens, born 7th February 1812, and his many connections with Dover could provide a theme. Dover's Annual Dickens Festival normally takes place in October.



Popular Items on the Website

The Daughters of Dover by Lorraine Sencicle

This includes details of some of the 88 Dovers around the World.

Dover History Scrapbook by Kathleen Hollingsbee

This is full of interesting local items from old newspapers and other records and the content is growing all the time.

Listed Buildings by Joan Liggett is a relative new addition to the site. I am sure that we shall see details of many more of Dover's old buildings appear here in the future.

There are some very interesting links to what is happening locally and Mike McFarnell has posted some interesting video clips, both old and new.

This site is both interesting and informative and well worth visiting. We are always on the lookout for new stories and interesting local reports for it and for the newsletter (contact Alan Lee 01304 213668).

**Any comments/feedback on our websites
e-mail doversociety@hotmail.com**



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

Signed

Date

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

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

Social events Writing for newsletter

Projects e.g. clearance, surveys, photography

Any other interests or expertise

PROGRAMME 2011/12

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

2011

DECEMBER 17

Saturday

7.00 for 7.30

£25.00

Christmas Feast

This will be held, as usual, in the medieval splendour of the 12th Century Refectory at Dover College, surrounded by portraits of the first 10 headmasters where you will enjoy an excellent two course meal, and complimentary wine on the tables. Upon arrival you will be greeted with a complimentary glass of sherry. We will be entertained by Elspeth Robertson, winner of 'Marlow Young Musician of the Year' in 2007 while she was attending Dover College. Since then Elspeth has played worldwide as a soloist and part of a band including concerts in Sydney, Rome and London. In January she performed at Dover College for the opening of the new Tallis Music School. Elspeth is now studying Baroque Oboe and Recorder at the Royal College of Music.

To book contact:

Mrs Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Castle Lea, Taswell Street, Dover CT16 1SG.

Tel: 01304 228129

2012

JANUARY 16

Monday 7.30

Speakers: Gus Jones: "Dr Reginald Koettlitz"

Richard Moffatt: "TSS Dover"

FEBRUARY 20

Monday

£6.00 per person

Tables of 6

Wine and Wisdom

A light-hearted quiz with Clive Taylor and his team. Price to include ploughmans and nibbles. There will be complimentary wine provided on each table. Prizes for first and second places. If you are unable to make up a table we will fit you in where appropriate. Book early to avoid disappointment for this popular event.

To book contact:

Mrs Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Castle Lea, Taswell Street, Dover CT16 1SG.

Tel: 01304 228129

MARCH 19

Monday 7.30

Speakers: Rowena Willard-Wright: "Walmer Castle's History and Secrets"

Lorraine Sencicle: "Suffragettes"

APRIL 16

Monday 7.30

AGM

Speaker: Bob Hollinsbee: "Slides/Photographs of old Dover"

MAY 18

Friday

Sissinghurst and Scotney Castle

Further details in the next newsletter or contact:

Mrs Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Castle Lea, Taswell Street, Dover CT16 1SG.

Tel: 01304 228129

*All indoor meetings are held at St Mary's Parish Centre
Non-members are welcome on all Society outings, please book as early as possible.*

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