



Newsletter

No. 77

July 2013



Renovation of the Guildhall Vaults © James Ferrissey



THE DOVER SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1988

Affiliated to the Kent Federation of Amenities Societies
Registered Charity No. 299954

PRESIDENT	Brigadier Maurice Atherton CBE
VICE-PRESIDENTS	Miss Lillian Kay, Mrs Joan Liggett Peter Marsh, Jonathan Sloggett, Terry Sutton, Miss Christine Waterman, Jack Woolford
THE COMMITTEE	
CHAIRMAN	Derek Leach OBE, 24 Riverdale, River, Dover CT17 0GX Tel: 01304 823926 Email: derekriverdale@btinternet.com
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Jeremy Cope, 53 Park Avenue, Dover CT16 1HD Tel: 01304 211348 Email: jeremycopes@willersley.plus.com
HON. SECRETARY	Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Castle Lea, Taswell St, Dover CT16 1SG Tel: 0130-4 228129 Email: castlelea@tiscali.co.uk
HON. TREASURER	Mike Weston, 71 Castle Avenue, Dover CT16 1EZ Tel: 01304 202059 Email: mike@weston71.freemove.co.uk
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Sheila Cope, 53 Park Avenue, Dover CT16 1HD Tel: 01304 211348 Email: sheilacopes@willersley.plus.com
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Castle Lea, Taswell St, Dover CT16 1SG Tel: 01304 228129 Email: castlelea@tiscali.co.uk
EDITOR	Alan Lee, 8 Cherry Tree Avenue, Dover CT16 2NL Tel: 01304 213668 Email: Alan.lee1947@ntlworld.com
PRESS SECRETARY	Terry Sutton MBE, 17 Bewsbury Cross Lane, Whitfield, Dover CT16 3HB Tel: 01304 820122 Email: terry.sutton@route56.co.uk
PLANNING <i>Chairman</i>	Pat Sherratt, Castle Lea, Taswell Street, Dover CT16 1SG Tel: 01304 228129 Email: ttt.castle-lea@tiscali.co.uk
<i>Committee</i>	William Naylor, Alan Sencicle, Mike Weston, Beverley Hall
ARCHIVIST	Dr S.S.G. Hale, 34 Church Hill, Temple Ewell, Dover CT16 3DR Tel: 01304 825670
MINUTE SECRETARY	Yvonne Miller
WEB PAGE	Mike McFarnell, Email: mmcfarnell@hotmail.com
ADVERTISING SECRETARY	Jean Marsh, 31 Millais Road, Dover CT16 2LW Tel: 01304 206123 Email: jean.marsh7@ntlworld.com
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Alan Sencicle, Email: lorraine.sencicle@btinternet.com Beverley Hall, 61 Castle Avenue, Dover CT16 1EZ Tel: 01304 202646 Email: bevbov61@hotmail.com Susan Jones, 181 St. Radigunds Road, Dover CT17 0LB Tel: 01304 210781 Email: susan.jones6813@ntlworld.com
WEB SITE	www.doversociety.org

Contents

2	EDITORIAL	Alan Lee
	MARCH MEETING	
6	WESTERN HEIGHTS - a talk by Jon Iveson	Terry Sutton
7	DOVER ARTS DEVELOPMENT - a talk by Joanna Jones	Alan Lee
	APRIL MEETING AGM	
8	REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN	Derek Leach
12	LETTER TO THE EDITOR	Graham Wanstall
13	RIVER DOUR	Jeremy Cope
13	COWGATE	Jeremy Cope
	APRIL MEETING AGM	
16	THE DOVER SOCIETY FINANCIAL REPORT	Mike Weston
18	BIG LOCAL - a talk by Carl Adams	Alan Lee
19	MEMBERSHIP NEWS	Sheila Cope
	SPRING OUTING	
20	RED HOUSE AND GREENWICH	Patricia Hooper-Sherratt
24	REFURBISHMENT SUB-COMMITTEE	Jeremy Cope
25	THE UNKNOWN WARRIOR MEMORIAL WINDOW	Marilyn Stephenson-Knight
28	PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE	Patrick Sherratt
31	ZEEBRUGGE DAY REMEMBRANCE 2013	Alan Lee
32	ST RICHARD OF CHICHESTER	Derek Leach
36	HERITAGE OPEN DAYS	Derek Leach
40	MEMBERSHIP 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, archæology, natural history and architecture of the area
- to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest
- and commitment to the belief that a good environment is a good investment.

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

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

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

Editorial

Although it is slightly disappointing that we did not manage to achieve our aim of 500 members it is of some comfort that the total membership remains steady. If you do know of someone you think may like to join the Society please bring them along to the next meeting. If you need a membership form for them please contact Sheila Cope or me: details inside the front cover. The cost has been held again this year so it remains excellent value for money.

There are still some vacancies for various posts within the Society. If you would like to help then contact me or any member of the committee. These posts will mostly take up only one or two days a month.

As is usual our chairman Derek Leach laid a wreath on behalf of the Society at the annual Zeebrugge Day commemoration on St George's Day. This year the good weather stayed fine and we had a sunny day.

The first of the outings has taken place and was a great success. Well done Patricia!

Although it is still some way off, the Christmas Feast will be held in the Town Hall at lunch time. This time of day seems to suit most people. We have switched to the Town Hall so that we can accommodate more people as last year we were well over subscribed. Members can be assured that it will be plenty warm enough in the area of the hall we will be using.

Alan Lee



COPYRIGHT

All published material contained within this publication remains the copyright of its authors, artists or photographers.

No article or image can be reproduced or used without the specific owners express permission.

The owners can be contacted by way of the editor.

Tel: 01304 213668 Email: Alan.lee1947@ntlworld.com

* * * * *

DEADLINE for contributions

The last date for the receipt of copy for issue 78 will be Wednesday 18th September 2013. 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. Copy on computer disc or by e-mail is acceptable. Pictures via e-mail must be as high a resolution as possible in JPEG. Please ring 01304 213668 to discuss details.

Publication in the Newsletter does not imply the Society's agreement with any views expressed, nor does the Society accept responsibility for any statements made.

* * * * *

EDITORIAL AND PRODUCTION TEAM

Editor:	Mr Alan Lee
Proof Readers:	Miss May Jones, Mrs Merril Lilley and Mrs Pam Taylor
Advertising Secretary:	Mrs J. Marsh
Distribution Organiser:	Mr J. Cope
Envelopes and Labels:	Mr J. Cope
Area Distributors:	J.Betts, M.Burton, J.Cope, J.Fox, J.Francis, L.M.Hoar, E.M.Johns, J.Luckhurst, A.Mole, J. Morgan, M.Morris, D.Smith, K.J.Palmer, G.Rapley, A.Sencicle, A.Sidney-Vassey, C.Taylor.

Pharos
COMPUTERS.co.uk



48 High Street, Dover
CT16 1EE (Next to Charlton Centre)

01304 212702

QUALITY PROFESSIONAL REPAIRS



LAPTOPS & PC'S

Broken Screen
Running Slow
Virus

Missing Keys
Data Recovery
Upgrades etc



MOBILE PHONES

Smashed Screen
Broken case
Software
Unlocking etc

Honest Reasonable Prices
No Hidden Charges

Quote given before work completed

85% OF JOBS ARE COMPLETED SAME DAY!

FREE* COLLECTION SERVICE

FROM: CT13, CT14, CT15, CT16, CT17

Timed collection and Return (1 Hour Slots) from your home or work.

*Free for any job over £40 otherwise £10 charge.

ANDY'S OF DOVER LTD ERIC ROAD GARAGE

Tel. 01304 207206



**Cambelts • Clutches • Brakes • Welding
MOTs • Major Repairs Undertaken
Fast Fit Exhaust Centre
Tyres • Puncture Repairs
Computer Diagnostics • Free Estimates**
Book your MOT online -
www.motdover.co.uk

March Meeting 1st Talk

The Western Heights

A talk by Jon Iveson reported by Terry Sutton

There was a packed meeting on Monday, 18th March, at St Mary's parish centre to hear Dover Museum curator Jon Iveson give a most interesting talk about the military fortifications on the Western Heights. Among the audience were residents of the Heights opposed to plans to build more homes there.

Using screened maps, sketches and paintings, Mr Iveson explained that early fortifications began in 1779 when defences were constructed when Britain's enemies were American "rebels," and their allies the French and Spanish. At the same time defences were also provided on Dover sea front.

At that time the road to Folkestone ran through the Heights and the fortifications were constructed there to counter any French invaders approaching to capture Dover from that direction. Mr Iveson pointed out that was the same expectation (and indeed enemy plans) if the Germans had invaded in 1940.

Mr Iveson, a military historian, showed how the type of fortifications on the Heights changed as gunnery, especially from ships, became more sophisticated. He screened images of what the Grand Shaft barracks, and its parade ground, looked like even before the Grand Shaft was constructed through the cliffs. He pointed out that using the Grand Shaft it took just 11 minutes for 600 soldiers to clamber down the 140 feet drop from their very large barracks on the Heights to the harbour below. Construction of

the Grand Shaft (to be seen from Snargate Street) was twice hampered by cliff falls.

One historic photograph showed how excavations for fortifications revealed the foundations of Dover's second Roman Pharos (twinning the existing Roman lighthouse on the Eastern Heights), a few remnants of which remain on the Heights.

Going forward in history he displayed photographs showing Lord Lovat's commandoes in training at their Dover base in the Drop Redoubt in World War II and the destruction of some of the fortifications and barracks after the war, to provide road access through the Heights.

He also recalled that at least one of the deep moats, built to surround the Heights, was filled in by Dover Corporation to provide a rubbish dump for the town! The Citadel, the centre of the fortifications, had a series of uses post-war from a prison to now an immigration removal centre.



Western Heights from Marine Station

2nd Talk

Dover Arts Development (DAD)

A talk by Joanna Jones reported by Alan Lee

Dover Arts Development (DAD) has been in existence since 2006. In 2008 DAD became a limited company with Clare Smith and Joanna Jones, both artists, as directors. Joanna arrived in Dover in 1997 and was later joined by Clare. They both had many contacts in the art world and many of them have since visited the town.

Their first major project involved five international photographers and each artist offered an event for local people to participate in. All of their projects evolve naturally and this has helped them to interact and get to know many local residents. Both of them are now settled in the town and have been surprised to discover how many creative people have lived, and still do live in Dover. In 2009 they ran the Here and Now workshop, which involved young artists. Others were the Fake Cake Bake and a drawing workshop. They have worked on projects that have included French partners in St Omer with Pierre Yves Brest. Another was to exhibit artists' work in the windows of the old indoor market to help brighten up the town.

Many younger people in the district have been involved with and taken part in local projects. One of these was "Remade". This involved designing objects from discarded waste products. A diverse range of goods were created from tables to jewellery. These were sold at a number of retail outlets throughout the country, including the National Gallery, Liberty's and the Remade shop in Bench Street.

Another project based in Bench Street saw the Remade shop turned into a film studio. Here they produced the much acclaimed documentary "Watermark" about Dover and the demise of Buckland Paper Mill. This was to eventually involve over 300 former employees. Clare and Joanna try to ensure that all of the projects are linked in one way or another to education. Schools in the area are also very much involved and are encouraged to play an active part.

"Bunting Forever" was then launched with the aim of woollen bunting being produced and hung throughout the town to celebrate the coming of the Olympics. All ages from junior school children to older retired people took part with some 6,000 individual pennants being made by over 500 people. Many of these proudly pointed out their work to friends. This bunting has been stored and is set to be put to use again at various events and venues to commemorate the 1914-18 war. Other notable events have included volunteers planting and watering some 1,000 plants in the shingle along Dover's award winning Esplanade. "War and Peace" set to run throughout the year, is this year's major event.

Clare and Joanna are full of energy and have many more plans and projects in the pipeline. If you would like to help or become involved in any way then do not hesitate to contact either one of them; E-mail: info@dadonline.eu or contact the editor: details inside front cover.

The Dover Society AGM 2013

Report by the Chairman Derek Leach

The Chairman's report has been reproduced in its entirety so therefore some items or events will already have taken place - editor

Putting together my 9th annual report was a challenge - how to make it a bit different and even more interesting? Well, this past year was rather different for everybody with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations nationally and locally. We must congratulate our energetic member, Mike McFarnell, for his vision and determination to revive the Dover Military Tattoo as part of the celebrations. This was followed by the Olympic torch visiting Dover and the Olympic Games themselves with Team GB coming up trumps.

For the Dover Society it was in many ways a challenging year, having to consider several major issues affecting the future of the town and making reasoned, constructive and responsible responses.

It was also our 25th year as a Society and I hope that you found the special edition of the Newsletter with its potted history interesting.

Now my report:

Membership

First, I have to report a failure. This time last year to help celebrate our 25th anniversary I challenged members to increase our membership to 500, but we failed. Our membership continues to hover around 450 with a number of losses but some new members. Please

encourage relatives, friends and work colleagues to join. Our thanks as always go to our membership secretary, Sheila Cope.

Now may I invite you to stand whilst we remember those members who have died in the past year....

So what have we been up to?

Planning

On the planning front Patrick Sherratt and his committee continued to keep an eagle eye on routine planning applications and making representations to DDC when necessary.

We have continued to monitor progress or lack of progress on the various regeneration schemes. Whilst we were pleased to see progress on the Buckland Paper Mill Site and the relocation of the Visitor Information Centre to the Museum, no real progress has been made on the blighted St. James area following the approval of planning applications. Regarding redevelopment of the Connaught Barracks site, it is ironic that following its sale by the MOD, this department is now renting it back!

After attending two more consultations and submitting views, we welcomed the final version of DDC's Heritage Strategy, which we hope will strongly

influence consideration of future planning applications. We also submitted views on DDC's proposed allocation of sites for possible development up to 2026. Proposals for the River Dour cycle route through the town gave us a number of safety concerns.

Three major issues continued to stretch us: the future of DHB (although not strictly a planning issue), development on the Western Heights and at Farthingloe and health provision.

During the year DHB submitted its revised proposals to the Minister to take account of the government's revised criteria for privatisation. We submitted a number of reservations and after a long silence the Minister turned down DHB's scheme citing alternative ways to finance Western Docks redevelopment and insufficient community involvement in port development. Whilst retention of the status quo, at least temporarily, may be welcomed, it means that all the work undertaken by the community, including the Society, in preparation for the proposed Port of Dover Community Trust was wasted and the cash injection lost. We await any further developments.

Our initial reaction to proposals for housing on the Western Heights and at Farthingloe (in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) was that the Western Heights Ancient Monument should be protected; however, since private money appeared to be the only way to preserve and promote this valuable heritage asset, we should not close the door without considering some sensitive, limited development if there were a substantial gain for the Ancient

Monument that outweighed any drawbacks. Following consultations, the original proposals were substantially modified in the subsequent outline planning application submitted in July 2012. The Society could not support it, however, without a firm guarantee that the benefits for the Drop Redoubt were guaranteed as well as concerns over quality of materials and design. English Heritage opposed the application, but with DDC keen to regenerate the area, negotiations with the parties continue.

The long running saga of where to site any new health facility and what facilities to provide moved a step closer with a planning application to build a clinic, rather than a hospital, in the car park of Buckland Hospital and to dispose of the rest of the site for housing. In the absence of any alternative scheme we decided, albeit reluctantly, that we should not turn down more modern accommodation on offer, even though in our view it was in the wrong place with poor access on foot, by car and by public transport and that it did not provide for the present and future need of the community since it fell short of the facilities agreed in 2008 and there were no overnight bed facilities for intermediate care. Therefore, we made our support conditional upon: increasing parking spaces to not less than the present number; retaining surplus land for future expansion and facilities, in particular care beds; road access must be substantially improved; and the town centre clinic remains available to the community.

Refurbishment or making the best of what we already have in the town.

Our Refurbishment Committee, chaired by Jeremy Cope, continues to make an impact with its survey of the condition of our many listed buildings and conservation areas. Our campaign for zero tolerance of antisocial behaviour and litter dropping bore fruit with DDC adopting a zero tolerance policy which it implemented in February this year, but it was virtually stillborn since the private company to be employed primarily as enforcers was sacked. Consequently DDC's own staff managed to issue only one fine in the first month.

We have discussed with DDC its new waste collection system which has created some difficult storage problems resulting in eyesores in various parts of the town, but there are no easy answers.

Cooperative working between The Society, DTC and DDC resulted in a number of property owners in Castle Street improving neglected exteriors of properties. Folkestone Road is now the second phase of this campaign. Wetherspoons failure, after several years of ownership, to refurbish the former cinema attracted our wrath. On a brighter note we were pleased to see a vast improvement in the appearance of the Old Post Office in King Street and the splendid restoration, both inside and out, of Charlton House in London Road.

Constant urging of the authorities to reinstate public toilets on the seafront has also borne fruit at last with DDC, DTC and DHB combining to refurbish the toilet block opposite the Premier Inn.

We are still battling with KCC for an

easily accessible footpath to link the castle to Langdon Cliffs, but our efforts to repair Connaught Park pond may soon see it restored.

KCC has now activated our case for registering as a public right of way the path between Connaught Road and Godwyne Path. With the help and guidance of Peter Sherrard of Bradleys Solicitors we applied for registration, which, if successful, would result in removal of the fence. 12 people have joined in the application, but if anybody else would like to act as a witness to its long term public use please speak to Jeremy.

A new member, Sylvie Parsons, now on the Refurbishment Committee, has shown us and the town with her Brighter Dover project how to get something done if you are really passionate about it. Mind you, she has the advantage of her French charm and nobody seems able to refuse her requests for money or help!

With the Olympics over, we discussed with DDC the removal of that blot on the Market Square - the big screen - but the cost would be substantial and cannot be justified in these years of austerity and so Dover is cursed for years to come with yet another eyesore. We shall keep trying.

Recently we welcomed the windfall for Dover of £1 million of lottery money to be spent over the next ten years on improving the town and the life of its people. As an amenity society we should participate fully by submitting possible projects and assisting in the local organisation. We don't want public apathy to blight this scheme known as Big Local.

Projects

One new project was started and concluded within the year when Jean Marsh and Terry Sutton catalogued a mass of documents and photographs inherited by Dover Town Council.

On the heritage front the success of Heritage Open Days in Dover continued with once again 10 properties open free of charge for the September weekend. We have also urged DHB to make the Admiralty Pier Victorian gun turret safe to open to the public and we are encouraged by the appointment of a suitable consultant to report on its condition.

Our long term project of restoring the Town Hall to something like its Victorian splendour in partnership with DDC and DTC came to a grinding halt with DDC officers unable to give it any time at all throughout the past 12 months. Despite this frustration, our gallant band of volunteers continued with guided tours of the building every Wednesday. To date we have attracted over 800 people from the town, the UK and overseas with income of £1250. You can now buy postcards of the magnificent stained glass windows and before long a much needed booklet on the building's 800 year history will be available, financed by the Society.

Another dedicated band of volunteers led by Jeremy Cope continued to maintain the whole area of Cowgate Cemetery with their fortnightly work parties and we still take a leading role in the River Dour Steering Group where, despite cuts in funding, monthly litter clearances continue enabled, at least for one more year, by financial assistance primarily from DTC. To assist grant applications for

funding we have agreed that this Group should come under the Society's 'umbrella' as a registered charity.

With requests for more Society blue plaques we have decided to add one of these expensive items every year. Having considered many suggestions we made an initial shortlist of three, the first being to commemorate composer Thomas Tallis's connection with St. Martin's Priory. The frustrating delay in erecting one in memory of Doctor Koettlitz on the newly restored Charlton House is not of our making.

More of the same

Now I turn to regular activities which are part and parcel of The Society and perhaps taken for granted, but no less important.

Social programme

Our winter series of meetings continue to be well supported and I thank Patricia Hooper-Sherratt, Patrick Sherratt, Sheila Cope, Mike Weston, the happy band of kitchen helpers and Denise Lee our new Queen of the Raffle, for all their hard work. Our summer outings were well supported and encouraged by this Patricia has an ambitious programme for this coming summer.

The experimental changes to our traditional Christmas Feast were a big success. Moving to a different venue, earlier in December and at lunchtime meant that we were oversubscribed. So this year we are moving to a larger venue - the Town Hall.

Publicity

Our Newsletter expertly edited by Alan Lee continues to be highly regarded and we are indebted to all the

contributors, Jean Marsh our advertising manager, the Proof readers, the envelope stuffers and all our distributors for their efforts. The excellent website, managed by Mike McFarnell keeps members up to date and helps to interest internet browsers not only in the Society but in Dover as well. Terry Sutton's regular press reports also help to keep The Society in the public eye and we continue to provide a Dover Society article in the Dover Life magazine. Moving with the times we have also acquired two fine pop-up advertisements; Mike McFarnell is even urging us to join Facebook and to start tweeting!

Representation

As usual I represented The Society at the moving St. George's Day commemoration of the Zeebrugge Raid and we also laid wreaths at the Remembrance Services at the Town war memorial and at The Society's plaque to the Unknown Warrior at the Western Docks. As Chairman I was also an official guest at the Olympic Torch festivities.

Thanks

In my report I have mentioned a number of people, but have not referred to that essential backroom boy, our efficient treasurer, Mike Weston, who will shortly dazzle you with his annual accounts. That concludes my report of a very hectic year for The Society except for thanking every member of the Executive, including Di French who resigned during the year and Bill Naylor who, having served since 2001, is not seeking re-election which means a change of Secretary, but I am pleased that Patricia is prepared to take on the job. I also thank our Audit Committee

and all those members who have contributed in any way to the work of The Society.

Just one final plea - your Executive, with one or two exceptions, is aging rapidly and we can't go on forever. We need fresh, younger blood. If this description fits you then please consider putting yourself forward before age gets you as well!

I submit my report for your consideration.

* * * * *

Letter to the Editor



Dear Editor

For many years as a member of the Flag Institute I have promoted good flag flying in Kent. In Britain there is so little pride it is an uphill task. I wish to start a Kent Flag Trust (or similar) to promote good practice and offer help and grants for people to fly our flags. Anybody who shares my concern please do get in touch. I have been a member for seven years.

Mr Graham Wanstall
Tel: 07941 574901

RIVER DOUR

Jeremy Cope

Affairs at the Dour Steering Group change. Until now the Group has been a forum for exchange of ideas and to inform Environment Agency of local concerns. The Group is changing direction to increase its role to include lobbying to ensure that volunteer working parties that are responsible for litter clearance continues and to investigate funding to enable improvements to the river. The change comes about due to pressure from Local Government who sees the Group as the appropriate body to deal with the river. Because funding obviously involves handling money The Society has agreed to incorporate the group as a sub group as to be able to manage their finances. The Society's charitable status also helps with funding bids.

I am pleased that Society members Ray Newsam and Pam Taylor have joined the

group and are already making a positive contribution. Ray raised £200 and Temple Ewell gave £100 for which we are very grateful. If any other members would like to become active with the group you will be most welcome. My contact details are 01304 211348 or email jeremycope@willersley.pls.com

The District Council's Draft Parks and Amenity Open Space Strategy is open for consultation - The Group is to join with the Society in a response. We hope to persuade the Council to include the concept of a Dour River Park from the sea to sources with a riverside walk. The walk is not a new idea but needs to be fully realised. Some of us are involved with Dover Big Local Lottery funding with its aim to improve our Town and the group and the Big Local's aims to my mind match well.

COWGATE CEMETERY

Jeremy Cope

The cemetery is finally picking up after the late spring but with one unpleasant exception. During our May Saturday working party we were approached by some people who dog walk Cowgate and warned us of drug takers' needles. A search revealed a needle and other evidence. The Police were informed but the use continued. The District Council cleared up very promptly after each incident but this is dealing with the symptom not the cause. There is a real need to deal with the

drugs and excessive drinking that so debase Dover. A letter has been sent to the Police, the Police Commissioner, District Council and our MP and the response is awaited with interest. Despite this I hope volunteers are not put off. If you would like to help or have anything to report then contact:

Jeremy Cope Tel: 01304 211348

E-mail: jeremycope@willersley.pls.com

Barry Late Tel: 01304 826286

E-mail: barry@late697.plus.com

Working sessions are 9.00 am to noon with dates for 2013 as follows:-

Thursdays	04 Jul	01 Aug	05 Sep	03 Oct	07 Nov 1	05 Dec
Saturdays	13 Jul	10 Aug	14 Sep	12 Oct	16 Nov	14 Dec



SULLIVAN & Son

Independent Funeral Service

- Licensed & qualified
- Free home calls
- Serene chapel
- Pre-paid funeral plans
- Full disabled access
- 24 hour personal service

PAUL SULLIVAN, LMBIFD
Proprietor, 20 years local service



12 Beaconsfield Road, Dover, CT16 2LL

Tel/Fax: 01304 201322

Get an instant estimate at our new website

www.sullivanandson.co.uk





Plumbing and heating installations

Landlord gas safety checks

Bathrooms Boiler servicing

Power flushing

Office

18 Westside, East Langdon CT15 5JG

01304 226611

E-mail: office@baldwinsalter.co.uk

**GAS
safe**
REGISTER 204983

*'Not standard plumbers, but
plumbers setting the standard'*

The Dover Society - Financial Report

An extract from the Accounts for the Year Ended 31st. March 2013

The following extract from our accounts represents the statement of financial activities and the balance sheet. The supporting notes to the accounts are not reproduced due to lack of space. However, the complete accounts are available for inspection upon request to our Treasurer, Capt. Mike Weston [telephone 01304 202059] or Email [mike@weston71.freereserve.co.uk].

CURRENT ASSETS	2013	2012
Society Badges	0	23
Newsletter Binders	26	36
Debtors and Prepayment	252	252
Shares gifted to Society	1599	661
Cash at bank and in Hand	<u>28,242</u>	<u>27,435</u>
	30,119	28,406
CREDITORS: Amounts falling Due within one year	<u>(887)</u>	<u>(1,347)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	29,232	27,059
NET ASSETS	£29,232	£27,059
FUNDS	£29,232	£27,059

The Society's Funds are represented by:

The General Fund	21,168
Rolls Memorial Fund	50
Projects Fund	838
Publication Fund	4,196
Town Hall Fund	2,979
	<u>£29,231</u>

Statement of Financial Activities for the year Ended 31st. March 2013

INCOME	General Fund 2013	General Fund 2012
Subscriptions	2,581	2,496
Donations	15	44
Social Events	644	445
Gift Aid attracted by Subs etc to General Fund	528	565
Bank Account Interest	47	54
Surplus on Badges	23	0
TOTAL INCOME	<u>3,838</u>	<u>3,604</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Members and Meeting expenses	110	185
Administrative Expenses	1,208	1,238
Newsletter Expenses	1,895	1,771
Other Items [including donations]	255	165
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>3,468</u>	<u>3,359</u>
NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES	370	243
Total Funds Brought Forward	<u>20,798</u>	<u>20,556</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>£21,168</u>	<u>£20,799</u>

Capt. M.H.Weston

APRIL MEETING

Big Local

A talk by Carl Adams reported by Alan Lee

Carl opened with an overview on the structure and history of the Big Local and what it aims to achieve.

This is the first time that the National Lottery has awarded money for unspecified projects. Across England 150 areas have been identified with each to receive £1 million spread over the next 10 years. The projects will be decided by the local community which will be led by the residents in the area.

Carl answered questions as he proceeded with the talk. Key features were discussed and it emerged that Big Local must be resident led and of benefit to the community in the area. The money cannot be spent on statutory services that are the responsibility of Government, Kent Council, Dover District Council, Dover Town Council the Highways Agency or any other statutory body. Other streams of funding can still be accessed. With match funding, fund raising, sponsorship and extra grants the aim at the very least is to double the amount of money available. Hopefully it will be much more.

The idea is that this scheme will help bring various projects together to benefit the whole community and make a much improved environment for all in the area.

The Big Local's four stated outcomes

1. Communities will be better able to identify local needs and take action in response to them.
2. People will have increased skills and confidence so that they can continue to identify and respond to local needs in the future.
3. The community will make a difference to the needs it prioritises.
4. People will feel that this area is an even better place to live.

The programme should have a local feel and create actions that concentrate on local needs. The £1 million can be used for a diverse range of things such as projects, grants, social investment and specialist services. In short it can be almost anything as long as it is of benefit to the area.

A major point was the need to involve all local residents. Their input is seen as crucial. They must decide what they like and dislike about the area and what they would change. They should record what exists at present and how it can be built on. Most importantly they must decide their vision of the future of the area.

There are just under 7,000 people living within the area and it is envisaged they must agree on a committee of about 8 or 9 residents. They would help run the scheme but would be accountable to all who live in the area. There would then be a further 7 or 8 non residents,

business people and experienced people to complete the committee. At all times there must be at least a 51% majority of residents from the area. Over the life span of the Big Local individual committee members will change and adapt to the ongoing needs of the area.

Partnerships between residents and businesses will be formed. Some for just a single project, others for multiple projects some for a short time and others for a long period.

At all times it must be kept in mind that the aim is to improve and enrich the Big Local area and the people who live there.

Carl has initially been assigned to our area for 18 months. It will then be up to the residents to decide if

he has done a good job; if so, then reappoint him. If not, they can appoint anyone of the other Big Local representatives.



Map Big Local Area

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Sheila R. Cope Membership Secretary

John and Ann Owen have left Dover to live nearer their daughters. As committee member responsible for projects John organised many events which benefited the community, such as litter clearances, usually involving local youth groups, the cadets for example. Both John and Ann helped with "stuffing" Newsletters and with distributing them too. They deserve our grateful thanks.

It is disappointing that we have not reached our aim of attaining 500 members in this, the Society's 25th anniversary year. We run to stand still and each year recruit about the same number as we lose, having maintained an average of 450 for the last nine years.

We need as many members as possible to maintain our influence and to provide a pool of younger members to take over the reins in the future. Nevertheless over 95% have paid their subs and thanks to them, as always.

The good news is that we have recruited a considerable number of welcome new members since Christmas. They are:- Mrs V Le Vaillant, Mr K Simmons, Mr D & Mrs A Courtney, Mrs J Kennedy, Mr R Sales, Mr J & Mrs M Kemp, Mr P Sparshott, Mr K & Mrs S Verity, Mr T Friend, Mr C Meredith, Mrs J Turner, Mrs S & Mr K Farrell, Mrs M Nicholls, Mr C Burke, Ms J Edwards and Mr J Lockyer.

Spring Outing

Red House and Greenwich

SATURDAY 18th MAY

PATRICIA HOOPER-SHERRATT

The Red House was the only house built by William Morris, and it embodies many of his ideas about art and life. It was also the first independent architectural work of his friend Philip Webb. The tiles in the garden porch are decorated with the medieval form of the letter M (for Morris) together with his Latin Motto 'Ars Longa Vita Brevis' meaning 'Life is short, but art endures'.

Morris found the site for his new home in the autumn of 1858 in the open country above the Cray valley, in a landscape of orchards and oast houses. The place also had deep historical resonances, Chaucer's pilgrims would have passed nearby on their way to Canterbury. The garden porch was named the 'Pilgrim's Rest' and the tiny hamlet of Upton (now part of Bexleyheath) was only a short railway journey away from central London. The total cost including building the house was £4,000, money that Morris had inherited from his father.

William Morris married Jane Burden in 1859, they moved into Red House in June 1860 when the work of decorating and furnishing could begin. The furnishings were brought with Morris, such as,

antique ironwork, armour, enamels and manuscripts he had collected in France, also the famous 'Prioress's Tale' wardrobe (now in the Ashmolean Museum), which Burne-Jones and Webb had made him as a wedding present. Eventually, Morris was finding difficulty in finding what he wanted to furnish Red House which led to the foundation in April 1862 of Morris, Marshall, Faulkner & Co.

William and Jane Morris had two children Jenny born in 1861 and May the following year. Morris proved a devoted father to his 'littles', as he called them, but inevitably their arrival marked an end to the carefree early days at Red House.

By 1864 the Morris firm had outgrown its first premises in Red Lion Square and Morris had grown weary of the daily commute into London, so considered



Redhouse, May 2013 © Patricia Sherratt

moving the whole business out to Bexleyheath. Morris and Jane were also both unwell and their marriage was growing increasingly strained. In 1865 Morris abandoned Red House and with it his dream.

In 1875 Morris reorganized Morris & Co. under his own control and transformed it into both an artistic and commercial success. Two years later he helped to found the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Morris's campaign to save Britain's greatest architecture - both grand and humble - directly inspired the birth of the National Trust in 1895 and still guides its work today.

From 1890 to 1903 the house belonged to Charles Holme, a Bradford textile manufacturer who in 1893 financed the setting up of *The Studio*, an influential magazine that supported the Arts and Crafts movement. From 1903 to 1920 Red House was home to the parents of Edward Maufe, the architect of Guildford Cathedral, whose early work was strongly influenced by Arts and Crafts ideals. A later editor of *The Studio*, Alfred Horsfall, owned Red House from 1927 - 35 during which period the magazine devoted a special issue to Morris's work.

During the Second World War the house was occupied by the National Assistance Board, which filled the house with ration books. Red House had reached its lowest ebb by 1952, when it was bought by Dick and Mary Toms, in partnership with Ted and Doris Hollamby, for £3,500; £500 less than it had cost Morris a century before. The two families lived happily together at Red House until 1957, when the Tomses were followed by David and Jean



Macdonald. They all contributed to a pragmatic, but respectful restoration of the house. In 1964 the Hollambys became sole owners, and over next four decades they welcomed the increasing number of Morris enthusiasts who made the pilgrimage to Bexleyheath.

In the late 1990's the Red House Trust was established with the aim of securing a sympathetic future use for the property after the Hollambys' death. Ted died in 1999 and Doris in 2003. Then their children decided to sell the house to the National Trust to ensure its permanent preservation. It was acquired with generous assistance from benefactors, the William Morris Society and Bexley Council. The 'Friends of Red House' who have helped keep the place open for several years, continue to act as guides and other volunteers.

We left the Red House at 1 pm and went onto Greenwich, where everyone had free time to do whatever they chose. After having lunch we found that there were plenty of places to visit. A few of us visited the Fan Museum, which was fantastic. Others visited the Cutty Sark, the Maritime Museum, the vibrant market and other historical buildings. We came away tired but agreed that it was well worth the visit.

KAVERNEL MEDIA

COMPUTER SEEM CONFUSING?

Get you computer driving licence

E-Mail Skills

Send & Receive e-mail messages
 Attach a file & photo to an e-mail

Beginner & Advanced

Computer Skills

Keyboard and typing tips
 Locate, save, copy, paste files or text

Word Processing Skills

Create a blank line.
 Formatting, bold, italic & centre
 Saving, naming and locating a file

World Wide Web search engine

Go to specified web address
 Download file from webpage

**Call for Adobe Photoshop- Premiere / Cubase-Protocols
 Database - Website - Final cut & much more...**

(Discuss your favourite topics, ask your toughest questions)



(Individual & group available)

VIDEO 2 DVD

Keep your Special Moments Forever!

**VHS to DVD
 from £9.99**
 (60 mins up to 10 Tapes)

Conversion Service

VHS - HI 8 - Betamax & DV
 Cine film - 35mm Slide. DVD & HDD Camcorders
Video, Audio & file Converter
 NTSC to PAL, AVI - MPEG.
 Mobile.Youtube, Facebook, Web & much more....

Video Shooting & Production

Social & family events - Weddings.etc.
 Edits - effects- titles - music - etc



01304213178 / 07796633279

Unit 1 Charlton Center Dover CT16 1TT
 Call for your local store / www.kavernel.co.uk





Want a fast moving estate agent?

Established . . . yet *Progressive*

Professional . . . yet *Relaxed*

Articulate . . . yet *Friendly*

Focused . . . yet *Approachable*

Call us now 01304 202173 or 01797 364600

27-29 Castle Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1PT e: dover@tersons.com
72 High Street, New Romney, Kent TN28 8AT e: newromney@tersons.com

the voice of experience

www.tersons.com

Refurbishment Sub-Committee

Jeremy Cope

To my mind our sub-committee's aim is to promote good house keeping in Dover thereby making the best of what we have. Dover has such treasures but signally fails to make the best of them. Dover Big Local Lottery Fund is now with us and has many similar aims to the Society. I would urge members to become involved even if it is only to say what you like and dislike about our Town. The web site address is DoverbigLocal.org and is worth a visit to include your comments. If you are not a computer person either phone or write to me or Alan Lee, our editor (see inside cover of newsletter for contact details).

Litter

Within our sub committee's work litter is a constant problem. We had great hopes of DDC's zero tolerance programme due to start in February but this foundered due to problems with the operator. We are due to discuss this with Roger Walton of DDC when I hope we will see some way ahead. A particular problem is litter left after 5.00 pm and unless enforcement officers are on duty then the problem continues.

Anti Social Behaviour

As to anti social behaviour please read Pat Sherratt's planning article and the Cowgate report. Dover has real problems that the authorities will only tackle if we persistently report breaches and continue to lobby. It

would help if, when you make a report to police or council, you copy in Pat or myself, either by mail, telephone or e-mail so that we can prepare an overall record.

Property Maintenance

Again I refer to the good work done by Pat Sherratt helping the District and Town Councils to enforce proper external maintenance of properties and I would suggest you look in particular in Castle Street to see the change from grotty to quality. It makes very clear the benefits of making the best of what we already have.

Footpaths

The Society's case to have the right of way between Godwyne Path and Connaught Road is now in the hands of KCC and I hope it will not be too long before we have, hopefully, a favourable decision. In the matter of the path between Bleriot Memorial and Langdon Cliffs and our attempt to create a safe footpath beside Upper Road we still struggle. I don't think KCC Highways wants to know but we will be battling on.

Connaught Pond

A thing we have long campaigned for is the repair of Connaught Park pond - I have been informed by DDC that once the tadpoles have grown and left the pond then the leaks will be dealt with - HURRAH!!!!!!



The Unknown Warrior Memorial Window in Dover

Marilyn Stephenson-Knight

Even on their happiest day, couples remember those who 'Fell' for their country. Royal brides, since the marriage in 1923 of Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon to Prince Albert, Duke of York, place their wedding bouquets on the tomb of the Unknown Warrior. His grave, one of the most visited war graves in the world, is in Westminster Abbey; he was buried there on Armistice Day 1920.

The day before, the Unknown Warrior had come home through Dover. A plaque erected by the Dover Society at the former Marine Station commemorates his arrival. Ninety-two years later, in 2012, with Armistice Day falling on Remembrance Day, another memorial to him and all the Fallen people he symbolises, was unveiled in Dover by Admiral the Lord Boyce KG, GCB, OBE, DL. "It gives me great pleasure," he said "on behalf of The Dover War Memorial Project, where I'm very proud to be a co-Patron with Dame Vera Lynn, to present this stained-glass window, with its profound message. *Lest We Forget.*"



Unknown Warrior window

The Unknown Warrior window was created in Dover by 3rd Dover Scouts and 8th Dover Brownies who meet in Eaves Hall, Eaves Road. They are named after scout leader Tommy Eaves, a schoolmaster at St Martin's, Markland Road, who died on the Somme in 1916. Tommy was one of six casualties with no known grave studied in an educational

project to mark the 90th anniversary of the homecoming of the Unknown Warrior. It was produced by partners The Dover War Memorial Project, City of Westminster Archives, and Westminster Abbey, and over 1,000 schoolchildren across Kent and in London participated. The window was just one of their many activities, which included classroom sessions, exhibitions, visits to Westminster Abbey, and a specially-composed musical performed by St Martin's School on the exact anniversary of the Unknown Warrior's arrival in Dover.

The window is now on permanent loan to Astor College for the Arts, Astor Avenue. "I am thrilled to

bits that Astor is taking care of the exhibition and the Unknown Warrior window for us," said Marilyn Stephenson-Knight, founder of The Dover War Memorial Project (DWMP). "The window can stay in Dover, where the Unknown Warrior was welcomed home - Astor has over 1,000 young people on their roll each year and who will be able to see it and learn from it."

"Our vision," said Ed Pallent, the Principal of Astor, "is to develop students who demonstrate strong values of respect, commitment, high aspirations, loyalty, integrity duty and service through the arts and our military cadre. This is reinforced wonderfully by the Unknown Warrior stained-glass window. We will use it with students at Astor, the military cadre cadets, federation primary schools and the local community. We will remember the great sacrifice that so many made to enable us to be here today. The stained-glass window will be used as a catalyst to inspire students in numerous lessons and we feel honoured to have been given the opportunity to permanently exhibit it."

The window is displayed in the theatre foyer at Astor College, where abundant natural light reveals the beautiful colours of its two-dimensional story. The six panes are dedicated to the six casualties, with pictures and key aspects of their lives included. One, dedicated to Dovorian Cecil Bromley was an experimental aviator, and the window pane and the Unknown Warrior educational resources, downloadable from Dover's Virtual Memorial at www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk, feature the role of Dover in the early days of flight. Shining through all the panes, from the other side of the

window, is a depiction of a soldier, standing on the White Cliffs watching HMS Verdun as she brings the Unknown Warrior's body into Dover Harbour.

The presentation and unveiling took place in the theatre itself, where master of ceremonies Mike Webb reflected on the continuing sacrifices of war-time. Calling them "terrifying" and "spine-chilling", he showed a 1940 map and photographs pinpointing Dover when Unternehmen Seelöwe (Operation Sealion) threatened Britain with invasion.

During World War II Dover was often machine-gunned from enemy aircraft - one such attack happened in the fields just below Astor College. Fortunately the two young ladies survived. One became the mother of Arthur Hornby, a former Astor student himself, who was due to present to Major Tony Leighton, representing Brigadier Simon Wolsey OBE, a donation for the Army Benevolent Fund. This was from monies raised in the Freemasons' hospitality tent at the Dover Military Tattoo in June 2012. Mr Hornby unfortunately had suffered a serious accident two days previously, so on his behalf the cheque was presented by Alan Shirley.

In the presence of standard bearers, Keith Atkinson, the chairman of Downs Branch, Royal British Legion, and Parade Marshall Phil Hackett conducted the Act of Remembrance. Following were two poignant 1940s songs from Astor Students. Wistfully "Cleaning My Rifle and Dreaming of You" were Jaouhar Ben Ayed and Sam Mummery, complete with superb performance on the banjo, while Courtney Wain and Sarah Mold remembered the dark times, during which Dover became a focus of

home, hope, and the wished-for peace, through Dame Vera Lynn's famous song "The White Cliffs of Dover".

"It is so important that many more young people will be able to enjoy learning more of the special part that The White Cliffs of Dover have always played in our history," wrote Dame Vera Lynn DBE, LL.D, M.Mus, in a letter read out at the presentation. "I am delighted to send my warmest wishes as the stained-glass window is placed in its new home, and I am with you in my thoughts on this special day." The DWMP also received a letter from No 10 Downing Street commending the initiative of commemoration, with the Prime Minister especially interested to read and learn of The Dover War Memorial Project. The letter concluded with his wishes for a successful day.

Over 200 honoured guests attended the presentation and the reception afterwards, including Charlie Elphicke

MP, Cllr Mrs Ronnie Philpott, the Deputy Mayor for Dover, Derek Leach, Chairman of River Parish Council and the Dover Society, Jonathan Boast, the artist who designed the window, and the families and the friends of our Fallen - with the fire-fighters arriving in style in their fire engine! For some in the audience it was the first time they had attended an Act of Remembrance and reflected on the Fallen, and they found it deeply moving. One decided that instant to learn more of his father's war-time service.

Every one here, every family, will have been touched by the wars. Since beginning The Dover War Memorial Project I have found thirteen family members who were killed in the wars. Simon Chambers, the co-founder, discovered his Great Uncle Fred, killed in 1915. They were our Unknown Warriors. Who in your family is yet to be found and remembered - who might be your Unknown Warrior?



The Lord Warden unveils the Window

Planning Sub-Committee

Patrick Sherratt

The organisers of major planning activities in Dover continue to “drag their heels”.

The much heralded Dover Town Investment Zone (DTIZ) on the St James's site was granted planning consent one year ago and is still a barren wasteland. The proposals for the hotel with the communication mast, that is essential to be constructed in order for Burlington House to be demolished, is awaiting “revised plans” as the original hotel group experienced financial difficulties and it is understood Holiday Inn Express has taken on the project. The site that has permission for mainly retail suddenly announced the interest of a Multiplex Cinema. Again no plans have to date (mid May) been submitted for public viewing by DDC.

The controversial “Western Heights” application also proceeds at a snails pace and only minor alterations since my last report and sadly there is no indication from English Heritage of the Heritage Package that is proposed by the developer. The Dover Society has again mentioned to the Planning Authority (DDC) the importance of such a package with the need for English Heritage participation in particular as English Heritage has starved

financial investment to the Western Heights.

Dover Hospital planning application has had a few amendments but does not resolve the Dover Society concerns as outlined in my last report and we wait for this to go to DDC Planning Committee stage when we hope to make a suitable presentation.

Section 215 activity has been dormant during the winter period with weather conditions not suitable for some of the required restoration work. However it is pleasing that another eyesore in Castle Street (number 5) is nearing completion, see photo. Currently 55% of the 69 identified properties in stage one (Dover Town) have either been completed or work is underway. The second stage in Folkestone Rd is already seeing scaffolding being erected in



A Much Improved Tattoo Parlour 5 Castle Street

particular around the Dover Priory station area.

Two Section 215 notices have been served to owners by DDC, these being 1 Atholl Terrace and 13/13A Cannon Street. These notices are for the legal enforcement to comply and list the work to be carried out. Failure within the prescribed timescale results in appropriate legal action. These two will, I believe, be the "test cases" for further 215 notices to be issued. The Dover Society Team consisting of Mike Weston, Jim Pople, Beverly Hall and myself continue to carry out periodical inspection of the identified properties and we have already, in conjunction with the DDC Principle Planner (Enforcement) short listed nine other properties for serving 215 notices.

We continue to seek a solution to the major eyesore of the former ABC Cinema in Castle Street and have a dialogue with Wetherspoons and the DDC Regeneration Officer.

DDC Planning has just produced a consultation document "Draft Parks and Amenity Open Space Strategy" with comments required by the 25th July. The Society will be responding to this important document in particular as part of the community is seeking to establish a large "International standard" skate park in Connaught Park. The consultation document introduction states it aims to raise standards at its



Work in Progress ...



... now a Much Improved 7 Castle Street

major urban parks. It is pleasing that a prime objective is quoted "In the first instance efforts will be focused on strategic sites in Dover, to support the corporate objective of regenerating the town".

Concern has been expressed by members of the anti-social behaviour in Dover. Following the closure of detention facilities at Dover Police station it is felt that this is a partial cause. The Society Executive asked that I take this matter up with the recently elected Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (Mrs. Ann Barnes). Correspondence has failed to alter the decision but Mrs. Barnes states that policing levels, which include staffing of detention facilities, can only be considered for alteration if there is statistical evidence and as such suggests that ANY anti-social activities should be reported using the police 101 phone service. Any reported instances should be given an "incident number" at the time of reporting thereby providing statistical records.

MAISON DIEU GUEST HOUSE DOVER

**89 Maison Dieu Road,
Dover
CT16 1RU**

Quality affordable Bed & Breakfast guest accommodation, located in Dover town centre – great for friends and family.

Single, Double, Twin & Family En-suites available with free parking & Wi-Fi.

Barry & Di French Tel: 01304 204033

www.brguest.co.uk

Dover Society Newsletter Binders



are now available
at £5.25 each

Contact the editor at:

8 Cherry Tree Ave, Dover CT16 2NL

Tel: 01304 213668

Email: Alan.lee1947@ntlworld.com

DOVER

BUILDING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

For all your Building & Maintenance Needs

Property Maintenance

Painting & Decorating

Loft Conversions

Foundations & Drainage

Roads & Driveways

Roofs & Fascias

Insurance Work Undertaken

New Builds

Extensions

Free Estimates

Why Move ... Improve!

01304 210565

Fax: 01304 208822

Mob: 07885214773

angela@doverbuilding.co.uk

Please call into our office and speak to Angela

7 London Road, Dover, Kent CT17 0ST

Zeebrugge/St George's Day 2013



St. Richard of Chichester

Derek Leach

When visiting Dover Town Hall have you noticed, standing unobtrusively in a far corner of the Stone Hall, a wonderful wooden carving of a religious figure? Do you know whom it depicts and why it stands in the ancient Maison Dieu? Until recently there was no plaque to enlighten you, but now there is, provided by the family of the local man who carved it. Bob Forsyth was a sergeant in the Dover police force who carved in wood for a hobby. In 1955 he presented this beautiful piece to the Borough for the Town Hall. It is of St. Richard, Bishop of Chichester.

Who was he and is there a link with Dover and the Maison Dieu? Born Richard de la Wych in Droitwich in 1197, he was a farmer's son but studious. Unfortunately, both parents died and their young children were left in the care of guardians. The farm was badly mismanaged and run down by the time the two brothers came of age. The elder brother owned the

farm whilst Richard laboured for him. After a few years, mainly due to Richard's efforts the farm was a going concern, allowing Richard to follow his thirst for knowledge.

Despite being very poor he went to Oxford and was tutored by Edmund Rich (St. Edmund of Abingdon) and later journeyed to Paris and Bologna studying canon law. Upon his return to Oxford in 1235 he was appointed Chancellor of the university and then Chancellor to the Archbishop of Canterbury who was his old tutor, Edmund Rich.



Carving of St Richard of Chichester by Bob Forsyth - Dover Maison Dieu

At this time clergy were often illiterate, livings were sometimes obtained by fraud and sacraments sold. Sons even tried to make livings hereditary. Parish priests were generally simple folk but their standards were as good as their superiors and better than society generally! The king was entitled to the income from any vacant abbey which

led to abuse and long delays in filling appointments! This state of affairs caused friction between the King and the Archbishop, which resulted in Edmund retiring to the Cistercian Abbey at Pontigny accompanied by faithful Richard. Upon Edmund's death in 1240, Richard dedicated his life to God and trained for the priesthood at the Dominican convent in Orleans.

After ordination Richard became a parish priest in Kent – probably Vicar of Charing and Rector of Deal. After some years as a man of great influence, he was now a humble priest, but this was short-lived.

The new archbishop, Boniface of Savoy, who probably owed his appointment to the influence of his niece, the Queen, recruited Richard as his adviser in 1245 and appointed him Bishop of Chichester, despite fierce opposition from the King who stripped the new bishop of his lands and mansions and banned everybody from helping Richard. Homeless in his own diocese and dependent upon the hospitality of his clergy, he went about on foot preaching and administering the sacraments. After two years the Pope ordered the restoration of the Bishop's possessions on pain of excommunication. The King gave way. Richard now lived in the Bishop's Palace, but he preferred a simple life style, giving generously to the poor and always seeking out the vulnerable when visiting towns and villages. He founded an almshouse for priests unable to work.

A true reformer, Richard issued instructions to his priests on how to conduct baptisms, confessions, burials and marriages and who could be

ordained. Priests were also to warn mothers not to let their infants sleep with them in the same bed! He told priests how they should dress and only allowed one living per priest. There was no love for married clergy - clergy 'who refuse to put away their wives' were to be deprived of their living. He also came down hard on lazy or immoral priests.

Still no connection with Dover? In 1253, at the Pope's behest, Richard journeyed from Chichester along the south coast urging a crusade to rescue the Holy Places from the Turk. Eventually, he reached Dover exhausted and ill from his travels and stayed at the Maison Dieu which, of course, offered free board and lodging to pilgrims. Despite his poor state of health, he insisted upon consecrating a new cemetery chapel in memory of his old friend, tutor and archbishop, Edmund Rich – St. Edmund. This was on 30 March 1253. The next morning, during Mass in the Maison Dieu, he collapsed and died later, on 3 April.

According to custom, his internal organs were removed and buried in the altar of St. Edmund's Chapel. His body was transported to Chichester and, before burial in the cathedral, his head was removed and placed in a reliquary in a cathedral chapel. Richard was canonized in 1262 and in 1276 his body was moved to an impressive tomb behind the high altar in the presence of King Edward I, the Queen and the Archbishop. It became a place of pilgrimage for the next 250 years until destroyed on the orders of Henry VIII.

Source: St. Richard of Chichester by Carole M. Duncan-Jones, the Faith Press 1953.

HaberDashery

Alterations,
Repairs,
Braid, Ribbons,
Threads and Beads,
Sequins,
Wool, Dyes,
Needles, etc.

— ◆ —
18 High Street
Dover CT17 9QR
Tel: 0779 687 1021

PAINT & DECOR

DOVER 84-86 LONDON ROAD
01304 204460

DECOR DISCOUNT

WALMER 28 THE STRAND
01304 374104

FOR ALL YOUR DECORATING NEEDS
HELP AND ADVICE WITH ALL YOUR
DECORATING PROBLEMS

1,000'S OF TINTED COLOURS IN
LEYLAND AND DULUX

100'S OF WALLPAPERS

MON - FRI 8 - 5 SAT 9 - 4
DEAL BRANCH ALSO OPEN
SUNDAY 10 - 12

G.H. CAPPER & SONS
FOR FINE FRESH FOOD
Quality Family Butchers

EVERY
WEDNESDAY DISCOUNT

10%

ON ALL
MEAT AND POULTRY

LOOK AND BUY AT
BARGAIN PRICES

SEE US IN
THE CHARLTON CENTRE DOVER

The Pines Garden & St Margaret's Museum
Beach Road, St Margaret's Bay
Tel: 01304 851737

Tea Room & Museum
Wed - Sun & Bank Holidays
(Daily during the summer)
10.00am - 4.30pm

THE PINES
GARDEN
TEA ROOM & MUSEUM

Pines Garden
Open all year daily
10.00am - 5.00pm

Revisit

TABLE TENNIS

at Dover Leisure Centre
On Tuesday and Thursday
10 - 11 am

Contact Sheila Cope 01304 211348



Britannia Coaches

**BRITANNIA HOUSE
HOLLOW WOOD ROAD
DOVER CT17 0UB**

Tel: 01304 228111

Fax: 01304 215350

8 – 16 seat
Luxury Minicoaches

Wheelchair-accessible
Vehicles available

Mowll & Mowll

S O L I C I T O R S ■■

Residential & Commercial Property
Wills Probate & Trusts
Elderly Client Advice
Civil & Commercial Litigation
Company & Business Law
Family
Personal Injury Claims
Employment
Charity Law

Telephone 01304 873344

Fax 01304 873355

www.mowll.co.uk

Trafalgar House Gordon Road Whitfield
Dover Kent CT16 3PN

REGENCY

independent financial advisers

The trading style of Regency (Support Services) Limited

'The Confident Future Solution™'

Includes advice on
Investments, Pensions, Life Insurance, Savings

Tel: 01304 213902

Regency Independent Financial Advisers
15, Effingham Crescent, Dover, Kent, CT17 9RH
Email: advice@regency-ifa.co.uk
Web: www.regency-ifa.co.uk

Regency (Support Services) Limited is an appointed representative of IN Partnership the trading name of The On-Line Partnership Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority

Heritage Open Days

The Dover Society - Press Release

1800 Years of History Free View

Saturday and Sunday 14th and 15th September 2013

DEREK LEACH

Once again The Dover Society is coordinating arrangements in Dover for Heritage Open Days, organised by English Heritage nationally every year. This event celebrates England's fantastic architectural heritage by encouraging free access to buildings that are usually closed to the public or would normally charge an admission fee. Dover has a great wealth of historic buildings, but few are normally open to the public such as Dover Castle and are not free. This year 9 buildings will be open to the public free of charge.

1 Dover Town Hall formerly the Maison Dieu:

Founded by Hubert de Burgh, then Constable of Dover Castle, in 1203, the primary purpose of the Maison Dieu was to provide free board and lodging for pilgrims on their way to the shrine of Thomas a Becket at Canterbury and later to care for the elderly poor and sick of Dover. A chapel was added by Henry III, which was adapted in the 19th century as a court. More buildings were added over the centuries. In 1536 the religious house was suppressed by Henry VIII, becoming the King's property. The buildings became a victualling depot for the navy until 1830 when it was taken over by the Board of Ordnance. Put up for auction in 1834 it was bought by the Dover Corporation. Restoration and adaptation of the Stone Hall and chapel took place between 1852

and 1862. The 19th century stained glass windows in the Stone Hall depict episodes in the history of the town and there are a number of portraits of famous people connected with the town. The Council Chamber was added in 1868 and the adjoining Connaught Hall was opened in 1883.

2 Maison Dieu House:

This fine Jacobean house in Biggin Street is the oldest domestic building in Dover. It was built in 1665 as the Agent Victualler's residence close to the Maison Dieu, which Henry VIII had requisitioned as a store for the Navy Victualling Office following the Dissolution. In 1834 it became the residence of the commander of the Royal Engineers in Dover before becoming a private residence. The Kingsford brewing and milling family and the Mummery family who owned the Stembrook tannery lived here during the 19th century. Bought by the Corporation in 1899, the house became council offices until after the Second World War when it became the public library. Following the move of the library to the Discovery Centre, the premises were purchased and beautifully restored by Dover Town Council for its use. The town's regalia will also be on show.

3 St. Edmund's Chapel:

This tiny cemetery chapel in Priory

Road was consecrated by St Richard of Chichester in 1253 in memory of his friend, St. Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury 1234-45, and was probably used as a cemetery chapel for the Maison Dieu close by. Hidden for many years by development around it and used as a workshop, it was revealed again following war damage to the surrounding buildings. The chapel was restored and reconsecrated in 1968.

4 Dover College: the remains of St. Martin's Priory:

Built in the 12th century, it was suppressed in 1535 as part of Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries. The site was then leased for farming and most of the buildings fell into disrepair. Fortunately, the grand Norman refectory was used as a barn and survives today. Dover College opened on the site in 1871 when the refectory and gatehouse were restored and the king's hall became the college chapel. Part of the cloister also survives. The entrance is from Effingham Crescent.

5 Church of St. Mary the Virgin:

This prominent building in Biggin Street, dating from Saxon times, was built originally by the secular canons of St. Martin Le Grand, but was rebuilt by the Normans. At the Dissolution it was saved from demolition when Henry VIII granted it for use as a parish and civic church. Unfortunately, because of its weak foundations, it was rebuilt in 1843, although its original arches and columns were reinstated. The magnificent tower survived this restoration.

6 Bell Tower of St. Mary the Virgin:

In the gallery of this Norman tower visitors will see how the bellringers operate and in the clock chamber they will see the clock workings and various

artefacts.

7 Unitarian Church:

This brick-built octagonal church sitting above York Street was constructed in 1820 and its worship area reflects the shape of the building. The origins of the church go back to 1643 to a local community of Baptists who established a meeting house in 1655, but were persecuted following the restoration of the monarchy in 1660. In 1692 Samuel Taverner made part of his house available for worship and part of the garden as a burial ground. Freedom of belief and form of worship as a Unitarian Church was agreed by members in 1916. Following Second World War damage, the chapel reopened in 1952. There will be an art exhibition, music played on the 1855 Holdich pipe organ and refreshments.

8 Grand Shaft Staircase:

This unique triple staircase was started in 1804 and finished in 1807. It connected the barracks and fortifications on the Western Heights through the 250 foot high cliff to sea level, Snargate Street and the Pier District, enabling troops to move quickly up or down its 140 steps within the cliff plus another 59 into the barrack yard. In 1812 a Mr Leith of Walmer rode a horse up the staircase for a bet. The entrance is in Snargate Street.

9 St. Radigund's Abbey:

This premonstratensian abbey founded in 1191 was visited by several monarchs. Following its Dissolution in 1538, the great abbey church was demolished and the remaining buildings with its lands were leased to tenant farmers by the monarch. Today the refectory is the farmhouse surrounded by abbey ruins. A gatehouse and a guest house survive.

Opening times will be:

1 Town Hall - Guided tours on Saturday only from 10am to 4pm

2 Maison Dieu House - Saturday 10am to 4pm

3 St. Edmund's Chapel - Saturday 10am to 4pm

4 Dover College - Guided tours only at 11am and 2pm on Saturday and Sunday

5 St. Mary the Virgin Church - Saturday 10am to 4pm

6 Bell Tower of St. Mary the Virgin - Saturday 1.30pm to 4pm

7 Unitarian Church - Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm

8 Grand Shaft Staircase - Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm

9 St. Radigund's Abbey - Guided tours

on Sunday 10.30 to noon and 2.30pm to 4pm

Publicity leaflets

Publicity leaflets are available from the Visitor Information Centre (now located in Dover Museum), Dover Town Council Offices (Maison Dieu House), Dover Town Hall and Dover Library.

To find out about other buildings open in the region

Tel: 020 7539 7921

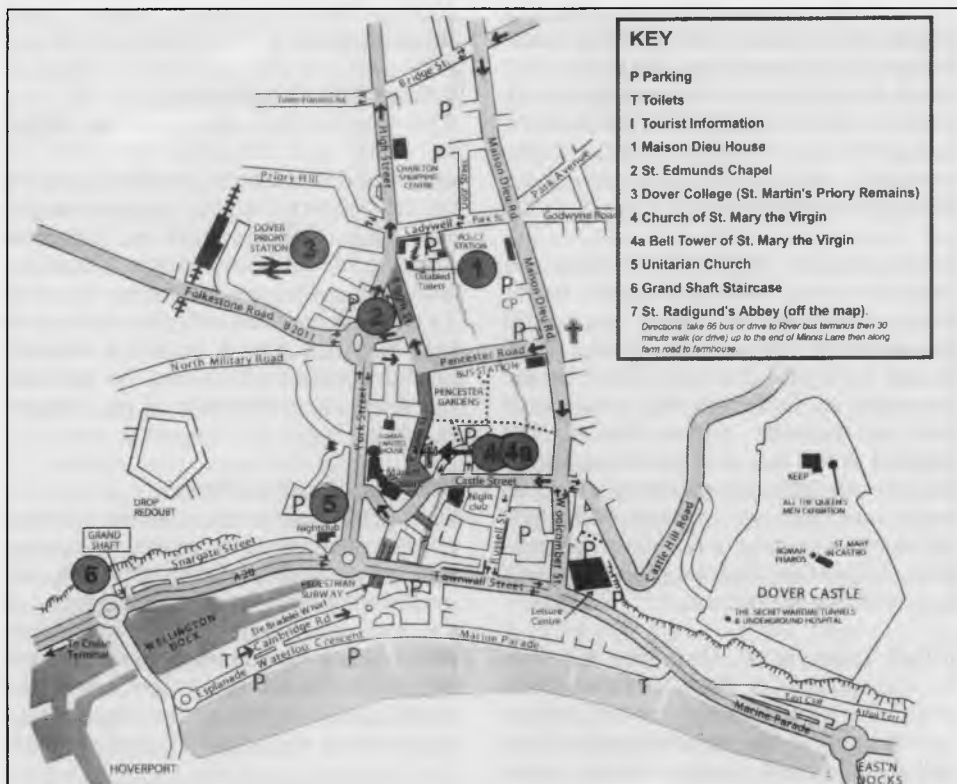
Website: www.heritageopendays.org

Local contact for more information:

Derek Leach

Tel: 01304 823926

E-mail: derekrivervdale@btinternet.com





We are here in Dover to help you

We aim to offer you the services you *need*. We will not waste your time or money with brilliant solutions to problems you don't have. We can help you with:

- Self-Assessment Tax Returns
- Bookkeeping and VAT Returns
- Accounts Preparation
- Company Taxation
- Company Audits
- Payroll Bureau
- Tax Planning
- VAT Management
- Company Formation and Secretarial Services
- Management Consultancy
- Inheritance Tax Advice
- Business Acquisition and Disposal

BUILDING YOUR SUCCESS
ONE STEP AT A TIME

SUCCESS

Contact us at:

5 St. James's Street,
Dover, Kent CT16 1QD
Tel: 01304 201994
Fax: 01304 240117

Email: dover@spainbrothers.co.uk
Website: www.spainbrothers.co.uk

Pets Arcadia & Aquatics

EST. 1937

16 High Street, Dover, Kent, CT16 1DR

Tel: 01304 206432

Email: petshopsteve@gmail.com

Website: www.petsarcadiaaquatics.com

Wild Bird Requirements

Bulk Peanuts, Seeds, Sunflower Hearts

Pond Fish Specialists

Tropical and Cold Water Fish
and much, much, more!

**10% discount for Dover
Society Members**

Curiosity of Dover

17 Cannon Street, Dover CT16 1BZ Tel 01304 202621

Curiosity of Dover probably have one of the largest collections of Swarovski Silver Crystal in East Kent. They also have Border Fine Arts, Florence Figurines and Capo Di Monte.

Call in to see the extensive range of Moorcraft Pottery and top quality jewellery, including Murano Glass, Freshwater Pearls and Amber Jewellery.

We have designer sunglasses and exclusive hand-made handbags and many other quality gift items for you, or for you to give.

Come and have a browse and discover why it's called

“Curiosity of Dover”



Application for Membership

Membership: Individuals - £6 annually
 Joint membership - £10 annually
Payable on 31st March

New Renewal Joint

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

2nd Name if joint membership

Address

Postcode

Phone

Email

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

Declaration

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 2013/14

*Guests are welcome at all meetings except the Annual General Meeting which is for members only.
You may pay on the night before the AGM and attend the meeting.*

July 13
Saturday
£14.00 NT
£28.00 non NT

Chartwell and Quebec House

Arrive at Chartwell by 11.00 am the home of Sir Winston Churchill from 1924 until the end of his life. The rooms, painting studio, and gardens remain much as they were when he lived there.

There is an excellent restaurant with good seating capacity where it is suggested you eat before leaving at approx 2.00 pm to go to Quebec House the home of General James Wolfe, who in 1259 led British forces to victory over the French in Canada.

Pick-up points: The Railway Bell 08.45; Hollis Motors 08.50;
Frith Road 08.55; Brook House Car Park 09.05

National Trust membership cards must be shown for free admission to their sites.

Sept 12
Thursday
£40.00

St. Katherine Docks and Brick Lane Music Hall

First stop is in the vibrant area of London, St.Katherine Docks where you may have an interesting wander around, or try one of the various choices of eateries/restaurants. Then to The Brick Lane Music Hall where a warm welcome awaits you for a Cockney Sing-Song show and a cream tea during the interval. Payment in full by the 1st August as the show must be paid for in advance.

Pick-up points: The Railway Bell 08.30; Hollis Motors 08.35;
Frith Road 08.40; Brook House Car Park 08.50

Please note that these pick-up points are 15 minutes different to those printed in the last newsletter

21 October
Monday 7.30

Speakers: Dr Darren Cocker 'The new NHS landscape - what it means for Dover'
Lorraine Sencicle 'St. Margaret's and Martin Mill Railway'

18 November
Monday 7.30

Speakers: Simon Crowley and David Little
'Dover Town Team'

Graham Tutthill 'A Lifetime Reporting on Dover'

December 7
Saturday
12 for 12.30
£22.50

Christmas Feast: Will be held in the Stone Hall of the Dover Town Hall. There will be a choice of menu. Make sure that you complete this part of the booking form. More details in the next Newsletter

**To book trips or feast please complete booking form and return to 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*

Florland **CARPETS**

ESTABLISHED 1993

DOMESTIC & CONTRACT FLOORING

Please come in and browse
or telephone for
further information

**62 London Road, Dover
Kent CT17 0SP
Tel: 01304 240071**



*Flowers
always please
from*

**Ann
& Pam's**

Quality Florist

Pam & Peter Drew

"Giving Quality and Excellence"

Established in 1976

Telephone: 01304 202796

Email: info@annpamsflorist.co.uk

www.annandpamsflorist.co.uk

4 Cherry Tree Avenue, Dover, Kent CT16 2NL

il Rustico

*No 4 Bench Street
Dover, Kent CT16 1JH*

Tel: 01304 211110

www.ilrusticorestaurant.org.uk

***Traditional Italian Restaurant
And Pizzeria***

Take-Away Menu Available

Opening Hours 12 - 2pm and 6pm - 10pm