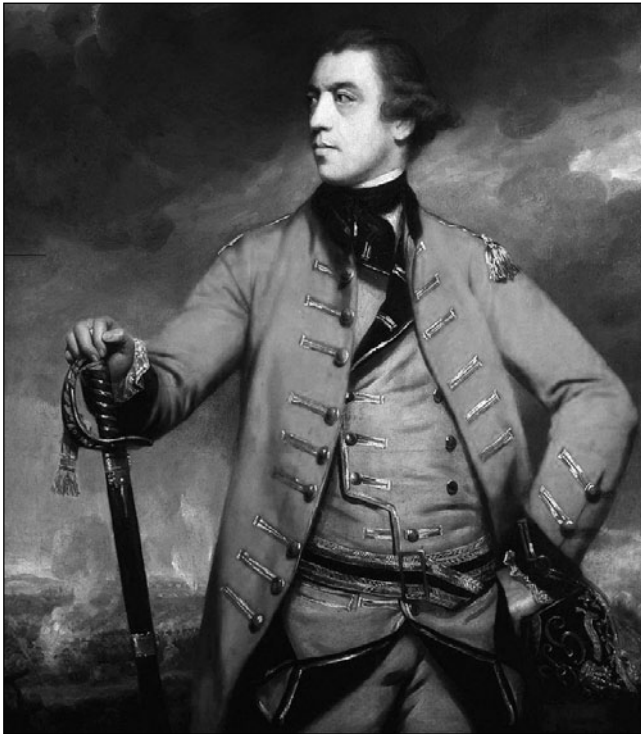


The
Dover
Society

Newsletter

No. 103
March 2022



Gentleman John Burgoyne by Reynolds

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THE DOVER SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1988

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

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The Objectives of the Dover Society

founded in 1988.

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

The area we cover comprises Dover Town Council, Guston Parish Council, Hougham Without Parish Council, Langdon Parish Council, Lydden Parish Council, River Parish Council, St Margarets at Cliffe Parish Council, Temple Ewell Parish Council and Whitfield Parish Council.

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

With the cancellation of Covid restrictions, and life returning to something approaching normality, I look forward to once again seeing members at a live AGM in St Mary's church hall.

The Zeebrugge commemorations this year will follow a revised format. Details are printed on page 19 of this newsletter.

We are still unsure on many details of Society outings, but what we do know appear on the inside of the back cover. If any member has any suggested destinations for day trips in the summer or autumn months, please contact Rodney Stone. His details are on the inside of the front cover.

I have great pleasure in informing members that Patrick Sherratt has been elected as a vice-president of the Society. This is in recognition to his commitment and diligence in carrying out his duties, especially on all planning matters. Congratulations Pat.

Barry O'Brien has some Town Centre History and Heritage Walks planned, there is one on 3rd April and another on 8th May. These are FREE events, but members are requested to sign up for these at www.eventbrite.co.uk, search for Dover Tales.

The April AGM will see a number of changes due to take place on the committee. Members are reminded if they wish to stand for the committee, or have any resolutions, then their attention is drawn to the AGM reminder in this newsletter.

Keep safe and I hope to see you at the AGM!

Alan Lee, Editor

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DEADLINE for contributions

The last date for the receipt of copy for issue 104 will be Wednesday 1st June 2022. 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 to be submitted in JPEG and not imbedded in the text of the article and must be in as high resolution as possible. 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.

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* * * * *

DOVER GREETERS

Dover Greeters are volunteers greeting visitors to Dover. We love doing it and invite you to come and try it once!

Tel: 01304 206458

NOVEMBER MEETING

Three Generations of Burgoynes

A talk by Barry O'Brien

Reported by Alan Lee

Barry commenced his talk by stating that Fort Burgoyne was built on the highest strategic point in Dover in the mid-19th Century. The aim being to help strengthen Britain's defence system and to give extra, landside protection, to Dover Castle.



Engraving of John Burgoyne

The major concern, at that time, was an invasion by France, led by Napoleon III, who had greatly expanded his maritime forces. Britain's own army was depleted and having to deal with an insurrection in India and a war in China.

In 1858 information was received that France was secretly planning to invade Britain. Panic ensued as it was thought that the coastal defences would be unable to repel an invasion.

The Prime Minister Viscount Lord Palmerston decided to bolster defences at a number of key locations, Dover being one of them. Work would see the construction of a new fort to be called Castle Hill Fort designed by Captain Edmund Du Cane. He was also responsible for the Officers Barracks at the Citadel on Dover's Western Heights. Construction started on the fort in 1861 and was completed in 1868. It cost £88,053 (equivalent to £9 million today). In the end it was named Fort Burgoyne in honour of General John Fox Burgoyne.

Well, who was this General?

In 1737 his father, also named John, had, at 15 years old, purchased a commission in the Horse Guards. Through his school friend Lord Strange he got to know his sister, Lady Charlotte Stanley, the daughter of Edward Stanley Lord Derby who was totally opposed to John and Charlotte marrying. On hearing this they eloped and were married.

Derby was furious and cut his daughter off without a penny. John had to sell his commission to finance the first couple of years of their married life. After the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth, Derby accepted them back into the family.

In 1756, with the outbreak of the Seven Years War, John Burgoyne became a Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel in the Coldstream Guards. In 1768 he was elected MP for Midhurst, Sussex and the same year distinguished himself as a Brigadier General in Portugal.

At the outbreak of the American War, now a Major-General, he arrived in Boston in May 1775. although his wife was extremely



Surrender at Saratoga

ill at the time. On 17th October 1777 he surrendered his entire army of 5,800 men at Saratoga. At that time, it was Britain's worst defeat in the Revolutionary War. The American General Horatio Gates granted him parole to return to Britain to defend his name. He was deprived of his regiment and on arrival learnt that his wife, Charlotte, had died whilst he was in America.



Sir John Fox Burgoyne

He was later to father four more children with the actress and opera singer Susan Caulfield who he may have married in 1781.

When the Whigs came to power in 1782 his rank was restored and he was given the colonelcy of the King's Own Royal Regiment, made Commander-in-Chief in Ireland and appointed a Privy Councillor. At that time, he was also a well-known dramatist.

In 1792 John Burgoyne died and bequeathed the bulk of his estate to his wife Susan with rotation to their sons. John Fox Burgoyne was 10 years old at the time. Educated at Eton and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich he was commissioned into the Royal Engineers as a 2nd Lieutenant on 29th August 1798, aged 16.

Before he was 18, he was promoted to Lieutenant, took part in the Siege of Malta, and then became aide-de-camp to General Henry Fox. Promoted to Captain he saw action in Egypt then in 1808, during the Peninsular War, he became commanding engineer on the staff of Sir John Moore.

During the war of 1812-15 in North America he was Chief Engineer and then

served firstly in that role in the Army of Occupation in France until 1821 then at the Royal Engineers Depot, Chatham.

1837 he was promoted to Colonel and the next year to Major-General and appointed Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath.

As an Inspector General of Fortifications, he advised on relief work during the Great Hunger, or Potato Famine, in Ireland. In 1851 he was promoted to Lieutenant General and to Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath. In 1854 he became Colonel Commandant of the Royal Engineers as a Colonel and in 1856 he became a Baronet.

On 2nd August 1856 the Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston invited him to go over the plans of all defensive works under construction, both home and abroad. At that time, he held various posts and honours including, permanent member of the Defence Committee, President of the Army Signal Committee, awarded an



Field Marshal Sir John Fox Burgoyne

honorary degree as Dr of Civil Law, made a Fellow of the Royal Society, awarded the Order of the Medjidie 1st Class and the French Legion of Honour 2nd Class.

He was the president of a committee ordered to inspect the War Department Magazines and report on the storage of gunpowder following an explosion of a large private powder magazine at Erith, Kent.

In 1868 he was given the freedom of the City of London, appointed Constable of the Tower of London, and promoted to Field Marshal on his retirement.

Field Marshal Sir John Fox Burgoyne, 1st Baronet, GCB died at Kensington, London on 7th October 1871 and is buried in the nearby Brompton Cemetery.

Castle Hill Fort in Dover was renamed Fort Burgoyne in his memory.

Sir John Fox Burgoyne and his wife Charlotte Rose had eight children. Hugh Talbot Burgoyne, their only son, was born in Dublin on 17th July 1833 and entered the Royal Navy in 1847, aged 14.

On 29th May 1855, during the Russian War, as a Lieutenant, whilst serving on the steam sloop HMS Swallow in the Sea of Azov, he volunteered to land at a beach where the Russian Army was in great strength. Along with his two companions Lieutenant Cecil Buckley of HMS Miranda and Gunner John Robarts of HMS Ardent, and against considerable enemy opposition they set fire to corn stores, ammunition stores and destroyed a large amount of enemy equipment. For this



Hugh Talbot Burgoyne VC

action all three were awarded the Victoria Cross. Burgoyne was invested with his medal at the first investiture held in Hyde Park, London on 27th June 1857, attended by a crowd of 100,000. Burgoyne due to his rank in the Royal Navy, was the third man presented with the medal.

On 25th August 1864 he married Evelyn Laura Wake-Walker, daughter of Admiral Sir Baldwin Wake-Walker, 1st Bt. and Mary Catherine Sinclair Worth,

In 1868, he was appointed to superintend the building and fitting out of the HMS Captain, an experimental craft of a full-rigged ship with turrets. When accompanying the Channel fleet to Gibraltar and shortly after midnight on 7th August 1870, the Captain was off Cape Finisterre, Spain when a squall hit the top heavy craft and she heeled over, capsized, and sank. Over 450 officers and men went down with her; but about eighteen managed to make it into the launch, which had been thrown out when the ship rolled. Burgoyne and a few men were spotted on the keel; and as the launch came near, the men jumped and were picked up. Burgoyne would not or could not jump, however, and was lost. His body was never recovered.



Captain Hugh Talbot Burgoyne VC

JANUARY MEETING

————— First Speaker —————

Our Chalk Landscape

A talk by Melanie Wrigley – *The White Cliffs Countryside Partnership*

Reported by Alan Lee

Our famous 'White Cliffs of Dover' are known the world over and is part of a truly remarkable landscape. So began Melanie's talk. This stretch of chalk cliff, where the North Downs meets the sea, runs from Folkestone in the west to Kingsdown in the east, a distance of about fifteen miles.

Melanie then shared with her audience many details of the chalk and rock that makes up this part of the Heritage Coast and the Kent Downs Area of Natural Beauty; both show how valuable the area is.

Chalk is a very pure form of limestone, and it is this pureness that makes it so white. Living here in the Dover area we are used to seeing this but chalk cropping on the earth's surface is exceedingly rare around the world.

Chalk was formed during the Cretaceous era, some 65 to 142 million years ago, when dinosaurs roamed the earth and there was run-a-way global warming. This was caused by a large number of volcanoes erupting and giving off gasses. The ice caps had melted, sea temperatures were 82-84° F [28-29° C] and the sea levels were 330-925 feet [100-300 metres] higher than they are today and the mid-ocean ridges were splitting apart.

In these ancient warm seas lived marine algae coccolithouspores (coccoliths) and

other microscopic plankton plant and animals.

The oceans absorb the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and the marine algae convert this into calcium carbonate to make their tests (shells) of chalk. When they died the tests sank to the ocean floor and over time formed a thick sediment. Over millions of years this sediment consolidated and eventually uplifted which created the chalk that we see today.

Melanie said that this should function as a warning as to the consequences of the ice caps melting because of continued global warming we are concerned with today.

Over millions of years there have been more times when the earth has not had ice caps than when it had.



View from Whinless Down

The shallow continental shelves have always served as nursery beds for fish and sea creatures, whereas the very deep water in our oceans has made many species extinct.

Over years sea levels have fluctuated wildly in height and this is shown in the rocks at Folkestone Warren. Lower Greensand being the shoreline deposit (estuarine) with dinosaur footprints being discovered. On top of this is the Gault Clay and above this the chalk layer.

The coast at Folkestone is quite different to that at Dover. At Folkestone the three layers are visible and underwent "rotational shearing." At Dover much of the layers are underground with erosion being caused by pebbles and gravel in the waves hitting the base of the cliff. This then causes large columns of chalk to collapse. This is what creates the "White Cliffs."

Looking across the Channel we can see similar rock types making up the white cliffs at Cap Blanc-Nez (Cape White Nose).

England and France were joined together, some 500,000 years ago, by low lying marsh land. To the east a large lake formed, fed by glacier melt and the Thames and Rhine rivers. As the level of this lake increased, the water flowed over the higher ground in the form of a Mega-flood. A number, which occurred near Dover, were some of the largest in the world and washed away much of the low lying ground. It is thought that the final land bridge was eventually fractured and destroyed by a massive earthquake.

Summarising, Melanie stated that there are many reasons that have contributed to make our area such an interesting place for geology, with the special biodiversity of plants and animals that rely on the chalk

for their survival. It therefore makes sense to be part of a Geopark that would help increase tourism in the area.

We have the greatest number of plant species and greater number of each species in our south-east corner of Britain compared to any other area.

Part of the work of the WCCP is to manage the chalk grassland around Dover, about 0.5% of the world's total; with Kent having about 2%. Volunteers help staff care for the habitats, grazing animals, wildlife and landscape that exists throughout our area. It is this team effort that makes so much excellent work possible.

The Society wishes to thank Melanie for her most interesting and informative presentation.

If you are interested in helping or want more details of volunteer workdays or how to become an animal 'looker' then please contact.

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Work mobile; 07541 207059
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WCCP office; 01304 241806



WCCP So Much To Do

JANUARY MEETING

— Second Speaker —

The Quest for City Status

The Society's New Initiative

Peter Sherred

Those members who attended the meeting of the Society on January 17th, will recall that, at the request of Vice Chairman Jenny Olpin, I was asked to present to the membership the outline of an initiative recently approved by the Executive of the Society. This initiative is to collate information and appropriate material to be merged to form the basis of a submission for city status for this town of ours. I have offered to co-ordinate the project, and this has been accepted by the executive. My credentials for doing so include the fact that I am a Dovorian born and bred, of some seventy plus years standing, having spent most of my working life in the town. For the last 50 years or so I have been associated with many organisations, clubs, societies, and other groupings in the town - often in a leadership position in which role I have defended Dover's interests robustly. I have promoted Dover's interests and advanced Dover's needs and requirements. I was instrumental in encouraging "The Times" to provide a special comprehensive report on Dover, against the odds I may add!

The intention of the initiative or project is to invite stakeholders to submit and contribute material for inclusion in the proposed submission and to encourage the public and, indeed, members of the Society, together with organisations such as schools, to participate so that this is a grass roots upwards community project and not a top-down imposed initiative. It is hoped that by proceeding in this manner the finished

product will truly be able to be described as a community engaged project and submission.

As I indicated at the meeting, I make no secret of the fact I am passionate about Dover and its interests. Our town has so much to offer, being a unique product with a distinct identity, a global brand, and a history second to none. One of the key features of the town is the wonderful community spirit or engagement that exists in so many areas of life and which came to the fore brilliantly in the recent Covid pandemic. This initiative is an opportunity to highlight, among other things, the amenities of the town, its Royal associations, its history, and many aspects of the life of Dover in which, of course, the port and its activities play such an important role. All contributions will be welcomed, so Society members are encouraged to participate but it is worth mentioning from the outset the copyright of the end product will be that of the Dover Society, which reserves the right to amend, approve or reject elements that do not contribute to the overall aim of the initiative. The Society approaches this project with an air of realism. It will take time and effort to produce a compelling final product for submission and at the end of the process much will depend upon the political weight and support given to it at all levels. While success is not guaranteed, the Society proceeds on a 'nothing ventured nothing gained' basis. This initiative can be a project that draws all together for a common cause -

the enhancement of civic pride a key cornerstone of the Society's *raison d'être*.

City status can provide a boost to communities and open new opportunities for the people who live in them. It could place Dover firmly on the map of inclusion in an elite company of communities across the United Kingdom. One question posed at the recent meeting related to what defines a city. Many still believe that to qualify to be accorded city status a community must contain a cathedral. This is an historic feature that is not essential in the 21st century. City status is granted by the reigning monarch, on the advice of ministers, to communities which have been identified for inclusion in the select group of places that already have the status. Going back in history, it is recognised that in the past the presence of a diocesan cathedral was usually enough to almost guarantee a claim of city status. Community size did not appear to be uppermost in the consideration but power and importance, whether civil or religious, appear to have been defining factors. By the time of roughly the mid-19th century such an approach was manifestly dysfunctional when, through the impact of the Industrial Revolution, centres in the north and in the Midlands, such as Manchester or Liverpool for example, remained towns while St David's on the west coast of Wales with an extremely modest population, but with a cathedral, enjoyed the city status. The requirement to have an Anglican cathedral was dropped, therefore, in the late C19.

Today, the modern criteria for what constitutes a city seems to include a raft of different factors or features including, among others, a distinct identity, a centre of a wider area and a good record of local government. At present there exist sixty-nine cities in the United Kingdom.

So, city status is not granted automatically just because a town becomes very large through population growth, or because of the presence of a cathedral. City status is awarded through the issue of Letters Patent and remains in the prerogative of the reigning monarch (on the advice of the Government), but royal celebrations have more recently been the occasions for approving new cities. The Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty in 2022 has seen some thirty-nine communities vie for the status of city to be awarded to them. Sadly, Dover was not one of them.

In the Platinum Jubilee competition, the closing date for which closed at the end of 2021, the thirty-nine submissions have come from across the United Kingdom as well as from British Overseas Territories. The latter, and Crown Dependencies, were included for the first time resulting in places like Gibraltar, Stanley in the Falkland Islands, almost 8,000 miles away, and the Cayman Islands, throwing their hats in the ring of the current batch of submissions. An 'expert' panel (as yet undefined) will work with Government Ministers to submit recommendations to Her Majesty the Queen for her approval.

For the purpose of the recent competition, applicants were required to include in their submissions matters relating to the distinct identity which they felt deserved their community to become a city, as well as the royal associations with their area.

Winning city status can provide a boost to local communities and open new opportunities for people who live in them. Local economies benefit from an improved national and global standing. City status can deliver real benefits for businesses and the community with a corresponding enhancement for the local area, by increased local pride which probably accounts for the

high number of applications seeking to achieve the coveted city status. The final decision on the Platinum Jubilee submissions will be taken in spring 2022 and announced shortly afterwards as part of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Now is the time for Dover to pull together to create a submission in

readiness for another opportunity that is worthy of the enhanced status to guarantee a good and secure foundation for the town's future and the members of the community that form it. So, whatever area of expertise you may have, do make a contribution to this Society initiative – perhaps a once in a lifetime opportunity.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS **Sheila Cope**

TIME TO RENEW SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many members now renew by Direct Credit, or BACS, into the Society's bank account which is: sort code 20-02-62, acc. no. 80864803. Please use your name and/or membership no. as a reference. If renewing by this means you might like to consider setting up a standing order which will avoid the need for future reminders. Nevertheless, cash or cheques are equally welcome. The amount remains £10 for joint members living at the same address and £6 single.

We number 483 and rejoice in the fact that we have gained several new, younger members who have moved to the town and appreciate its qualities and wish to contribute toward its improvement. Several of the "old guard" are retiring from the executive and we welcome the energy and commitment that the newcomers may bring to our Society. Another change is the retirement of Maureen Morris and Danielle Sutton from newsletter delivery. We thank them both for their service to the Society. We are grateful to Jane Allcock who has taken over from Maureen and to Chris Blackburn who has extended his round at Whitfield. Keith Sansum has also kindly undertaken to distribute to some Dover members who live on the farther fringes of the town.

There has been a record number of recent new members. They are Mr M & Mrs E Barber, Mr D Donnelly, Mr M Tait, Mr J Parkin, Mrs J Langford, Mr J Horne, Mr S & Mrs O Brice, Ms S Amos, Mr J & Mrs J White, Mr R Holme & Ms R Goodwin, Mr J Kennett, Mr T Miles & Ms R Pressnell, Mrs C Mounce & Mr C Oliver, Mr W & Mrs E Veale.

Among the obituaries, we have lost Mr Arthur Vassey who attended meetings regularly and who delivered newsletters in the Elms Vale and Maxton areas from 1991 until prevented by ill health. Dr Glyn Hale was featured in the previous Newsletter. Other deaths include Mrs Ann Thomson, Mrs Agnes (Nan) Walker, Mr James Simmonds, Mr Graham Leadbeater, Mrs Nancy Sheasby, Mr Christopher Hall, Miss Joan Parkin, Mr John Lockyer and Mrs Norma Clayton. We send our condolences to the families and friends of these former members.

Finally, although Jeremy and I will continue to oversee newsletter distribution for now, at the AGM I am looking forward to handing over my role to Mrs Ann Burke who has kindly offered to take it on. With her warmth and enthusiasm, I feel confident that Ann will help to promote the Society and that she will enjoy making connections with existing members and forging friendships with new ones.



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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Dover Society AGM 2022

Derek Leach

Once again, my annual report to be presented formally at the 25 April AGM is included in the March Newsletter, which means that I can only cover up to the end of January 2022 to meet the Editor's deadline. Anything new of import February to Easter will be given verbally at the AGM.

As always, your Executive, sub committees and volunteers have been very active trying to conserve and promote our heritage, improve the quality of life for those living now and participating in all that is going on to regenerate our town for the future. Once again, we have had to labour within the constraints imposed by the pandemic relying heavily upon the benefits of the internet. Whilst it was another year without any Society trips or holiday, we were able to resume cautiously face to face committee meetings in the autumn and our programme of public meetings in October, but, unfortunately, no Christmas Feast. At the October meeting we took the first live opportunity to elect Patrick Sherratt a life Vice President of the Society for his outstanding contribution to the Society, particularly his 10 years as Chairman of the Planning Committee.

Throughout the year our Secretary, Jeremy Cope, struggled to gain the approval of the Charity Commissioners for amendments to our constitution, necessitating two general meetings for the formal approval of members. We are grateful to him and to Peter Sherrad for

his advice. With several key members of the executive well into their eighties we were concerned about succession planning. This led to a useful thought-provoking discussion in the executive about how to secure the future of the Society, building upon our 483 membership and (dare I say) the reputation we have in the community. Watch this space.

The Newsletter reports from Graham Margery, our Planning Committee Chairman, have given you some indication of its hard work with about three hundred new applications reviewed and commented upon, if appropriate. We continued to make the transport minister aware of our serious concerns about the impact locally of the government's proposed post Brexit Inland Border Facility at Whitfield and were pleased to see the lorry capacity reduced from 1200 to 96 with the site size reduced – even better, no construction as yet. We were pleased to see the Marina Curve Pier open to the public with its quality finish, including the sensitive installation of restored artefacts from the former Prince of Wales Pier; whilst hoping for quality buildings, however, we were disappointed with the planning applications, which were subsequently approved by DDC. The Market Square redevelopment got underway; using Permitted Development Rights the authorities needed no planning application, but we raised several practical and safety objections to the scheme. We considered an application for

two blocks of flats on the former night club site in Adrian Street to be far too high for the site, creating a blot on the landscape; despite one hundred objections it was approved; similarly, whilst welcoming in principle a five storey application in Bench Street, we feel that it is too high. DDC has obtained yet another large grant to improve Bench Street and the Townwall Street underpass, which is very welcome, but details are scarce – it would be great if the derelict Crypt site was tackled at long last! Our policy is still to support the conversion of empty commercial premises, particularly the upper floors, to residential use provided quality and size are adequate. A monumental task, coordinated by Patrick Sherratt, was the Society's lengthy, detailed response to DDC's draft Local Plan covering development up to 2035. A surprise was an invite by Highways England regarding the dualling of the A2 from Lydden to the Eastern Docks, but no information was forthcoming; it remains a dream!

Our Refurbishment Committee/Team, chaired by Jenny Olpin, has a very wide remit to monitor and lobby for improvements regarding the quality of life of the community and of the appearance of the town, both for locals and visitors. During the year, this included urging the local authorities not to impose changes without public consultation – such as the 'parklet' seating that suddenly appeared. We supported the successful Co-Innovation Centre for small start-up businesses to seek a new location when it had to leave its Stembrook premises. The opening of the The Pantry food store and the Sunrise Café for the less fortunate (and the more fortunate in the cafe) was welcomed as was the accommodation for the homeless during the pandemic winters. The

proposed cycle hire scheme, funded by KCC and based at 5 sites initially, was welcomed and we are supporting the campaign to save the Roundhouse Theatre (and to improve it). Deborah Gasking and her team, The Wombles, continued to be proactive, attempting to provide a green corridor from Station Approach to the town centre and undertaking regular litter pickings on Shakespeare Beach. Volunteers continue to work in and on the River Dour to make it more attractive and accessible to the public with an education project and, to counter illegal fish poaching, flyfishing courses (where caught fish are returned to the river). Occasional meetings with the local police commander continue, enabling us to raise concerns.

Turning to projects – 'projects' implies schemes with a limited timescale, but some of our projects have become permanent features of the Society! Our gallant band of volunteers are still maintaining Cowgate Cemetery despite the constraints of covid. The Town Hall refurbishment project, triggered by the Society in 2010, is now well underway. With the building closed for normal use until 2024 it is now watertight, virtually emptied of contents ready for the main contractor to start work internally in late spring; the associated varied programme of activities to engage the public is already making an impact both locally and nationally. Hopefully, our plan to install one new Society blue plaque a year, which has faltered due to Covid, will resume in 2022 commemorating historic Castle Hill House and its illustrious three generations of Knocker town clerks who lived there; Anne Pratt, a well-known Victorian botanist who lived in Castle Street, should be next. Finally, a new Society project just underway is to research and submit an application for

Dover to have city status. It will be a daunting task with no guarantee of success, but, if not, it will be a worthwhile exercise that you may wish to be involved with.

Our Newsletter 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. Terry Sutton's press reports help to keep the Society in the public eye. Behind the scenes Mike Weston continued to cook the financial books; thanks also to Yvonne Miller, who has the thankless task of taking the Executive minutes and to every other member of the Executive, subcommittees, and groups for their contributions. Lynda Smith kindly agreed to manage our indoor meetings during the year.

Three members of the Executive are retiring from their officer roles after very many years of dedicated service to the Society: Mike Weston as Treasurer, Jeremy Cope as Secretary (having previously been Chairman, Vice Chairman, and founder member of the Executive in 1988) and Sheila Cope, Membership Secretary. I am sure that they will continue to serve the Society in other ways. In addition, I am standing down as Chairman after 18 years; it has been a great honour and privilege. Fortunately, I am confident that we shall be able to recommend replacements for your approval at the AGM.

On first being elected Chairman in 2004 I said that my aim was to increase the membership from about 450 to at least five hundred. We still have not reached that elusive number; perhaps my successor will have more success.

AGM

A reminder to all members

The Annual General Meeting this year will be held live at 7.30pm on Monday 25th April at St Mary's Parish Centre

Resolutions for discussion and nominations for officers and committee members should be submitted in writing to;

Hon Secretary: Jeremy Cope
53 Park Avenue, Dover. CT16 1HD
Tel: 01304 211348
E-mail: jeremyclope@willersley.plus.com

All resolutions and nominations must be received by
Wednesday 6th April 2022

Nominations should be supported by a proposer and seconder and the written consent of the potential candidate.

As this is the first live AGM since 2019 and the most important meeting of the year, all members are urged to attend if possible.

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What's on at the Maison Dieu

Spring and Summer 2022

Join us for an exciting programme of activities, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

19th March	The Science of Paintings Conservation
4th April	Buckland Community Engagement Day
5th April	St Radigund's Community Engagement Day
8-10th April	The History Diggers Archaeological Dig
23rd April	Kent Local History Festival
2-5th June	Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Join us for 'Lunchtime Bites' at the Maison Dieu in Dover to see expert conservators at work

Wednesday 23rd February saw the start of regular bite-size events at Dover's historic Maison Dieu, where visitors can engage with specialists from Bainbridge Conservation as they demonstrate or talk about a fascinating aspect of the building's Conservation in Action programme.

Lunchtime visitors are welcome to bring their own sandwich or take-away coffee as they find out about subjects as wide-ranging as how to conserve a William Burges neo-Gothic chair, repair a gilded picture frame or clean a 300-year-old royal portrait.

Other drop-ins will explore the question of whether to conserve or restore - and the different approaches to object conservation; as well as how to look after your family treasures.

Visitors will also be able to discover fascinating stories about the building and

its contents, uncovered by a talented team of Maison Dieu researchers. These include a bite-size talk about St Richard of Chichester and the statue of him carved by Dover policeman Bob Forsyth in 1955; Votes for Women - the tale of a Maison Dieu ballot box; the Dover history windows in close-up detail; and the story of the portrait of James Poulter, Dover's only Quaker mayor.

The team at the Maison Dieu hope these introductory sessions will appeal to people working in Dover town centre, who are looking for something a bit different to do in their lunch hour.

Lunchtime bites take place between 12.30pm and 1.00pm in the Maison Dieu Stone Hall on the following days:
 Wednesday 2nd, 9th, 23rd and 30th March
 Saturday 9th April, Wednesday 20th April
 Wednesday 4th and 18th May
 Friday 3rd June, Saturday 4th June,
 Wednesday 15th and 29th June
 Or pop into the Maison Dieu, Dover's very own version of *The Repair Shop* to meet the team from Bainbridge Conservation
 Open 11am to 3pm (Same dates as above)
Admission free (No Need To Book)

Entry via Maison Dieu
 (Dover Town Hall) High Street entrance.
 For lift access contact
 Martin Crowther on 07596 889 668.
 For further details visit
www.maisondieudover.org.uk

Annual Zeebrugge Raid Commemorations

Terry Sutton

For the first time in more than one hundred years the annual Zeebrugge Raid parade and service will not be held at St James' cemetery where heroes of the 1918 Raid are buried.


Instead, the traditional organisers of the annual event, Dover Town Council, has decided to commemorate the 104th anniversary of the Raid at the town's main war memorial in Biggin Street at 11.55 am on April 23.

A spokesman for the council explains: "Arrangements this year are different from previous years owing to the restrictions still in place for our Belgian (Zeebrugge)

colleagues and the duty of care for our townsfolk and our own staff."

Traditionally the mayor has at midday on April 23 sounded the Zeebrugge Bell from the town hall balcony. But with the redevelopment work being carried out at the town hall this will not be possible this year. Instead, the mayor will ring the bell below the balcony at midday.

The Zeebrugge Raid, carried out by Royal Marines and members of the Royal Navy, set off on their daring exploit from Dover while many of those who took part were trained at Deal.



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Photography Any other interests or expertise

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River Dour Partnership

Chalk Streams

Deborah Gasking

Chalk streams are a rare and valuable habitat, often referred to as the equivalent of England's rain forests or Great Barrier Reef.

There are fewer than three hundred chalk streams in the world; England has 224 of them. That is 85% of the global total. Thus, our short four mile River Dour is ecologically important.

Most of our chalk streams are in the south and east of the country, stretching from Yorkshire through East Anglia, the Chilterns, Kent, Hampshire, and Dorset. They vary in size from the stately River Test in Hampshire, to diminutive little brooks you can almost hop over and dozens of smaller springs, rills, and flushes.

A chalk stream is broadly defined as one that derives most of its flow from chalk-fed groundwater, and it exhibits – in varying degrees depending on the particular geology of a given valley – the ‘classic’ chalk stream characteristics of alkaline, crystal-clear water, flowing consistently and equably over clean gravel beds. The water is very pure, rich in minerals and remains at a fairly constant temperature year-round.

In the mid-1800s, Thomas Huxley, a pioneering biologist, was sent samples of the porridgy Atlantic sea floor. Chalk, Huxley discovered, is the fossilised remains of billions of infinitesimally small creatures, which swarmed in warm, shallow seas millions of years ago. When these single-celled creatures died, they

rained down to the ocean floor, settling and compressing over time into chalk. As the planet cooled its seas retreated and the sea beds became land. Then, for millions of years ice, wind, rain, and the glaciers of the most recent Ice Age re-arranged and shaped this landscape into the great belt of chalk hills we call the North and South Downs.

When rain falls on these hills, it sinks into the ground – as if into a sponge – through fissures and cracks, or into the body of the chalk itself, turning the hills into underground oceans of trapped rainwater. Then begins that water's hidden journey: a drop of rain might travel five miles, or fifty, under the earth; it might stay down there five months or five years or five centuries. The subterranean topography that determines exactly where the water goes is immensely complex, almost unknowable; what we do know is that here and there, in a wet furrow in a meadow, under the roots of an ancient tree, or in a rook-filled copse on the edge of a hill, that water re-emerges as springs – the source of chalk streams.

What flows from these springs is no longer plain rainwater but chalk-water: cold and clear, and mineral rich. Because they are spring-fed, they are naturally buffered from the immediate impact of rains and drought. This steady flow of cool, clear water in meandering, gravelly channels, creates spectacularly diverse and fecund ecosystems.

Chalk streams are a quintessential part of the English landscape. These unspoilt

gentle, malleable rivers are like a watery Garden of Eden, home to an incredibly special array of fauna and flora; the aquatic plants are the 'hedgerows' of the river, providing the in-stream habitat on which everything else depends.

We can see in the Dour lush beds of submerged plants, such as watercress, water crowfoot and water star-wort whose flowers are held expectantly above the water's surface, attracting bees and other pollinating insects in summer. Plant diversity and good water quality support many invertebrates and fish.

They have been harnessed and lived with shaping and shaped by human history in one of the most used landscapes anywhere in the world. Think of Roman villas, mills, the medieval priories and holy houses, castles, the ornate Palladian parks and gardens, fisheries, the Georgian water meadows. Houses were built with it and blackboards written on with it.

More or less every metre of every chalk stream has been modified to a degree, often many times. They are very low-energy systems and are mostly incapable of erasing a modification once it has occurred, so the modifications accumulate.

Some are buried underground. Many are



River Dour Bridge Near The Red Lion Pub

polluted. To our shame most of the really debilitating changes have occurred in the last 50 or 60 years. Before that time, they were certainly much-used river systems, but our relationship with these rivers was, to a large degree, symbiotic.

Now the range of threats is diverse, and most are difficult to overcome in a busy, valuable landscape that supports farming and industry, people, and businesses.

They are under immense pressure, flowing through one of the most urbanised, industrialised, and populated parts of the UK. All these streams are impacted in one way or another by the activities of people.

We depend on chalk streams for public water supply and have leant heavily on the resources of the underground body of water that feeds these streams. And yet every litre of water we take out of the aquifers – and we take billions and billions of litres to irrigate our crops, flush toilets, run our taps (up 70% of the public drinking water supply in the south-east of England) is water lost to the natural environment. At least until we put it back.

A chalk stream's shape, form, and connectivity (its 'geomorphology') is the backbone of its biodiversity. A physically intact, natural, and stable river is far more able to tolerate pollution and abstraction than a heavily modified one. The confined, straightened, impounded chalk stream cannot cope with floods and droughts in the same way a natural river can. Pollutants can more easily get into a modified system without its natural buffers, and once there tend to become trapped in a river that lacks its natural physical function – meandering and flooding. In-stream structures, such as weirs and sluices, also do damage as they

prevent re-colonisation of wildlife after extreme events, and prevent inappropriate sediment being removed from the river, and are also barriers to fish passage.

Tackling this issue is imperative to ensure our chalk streams are healthy and resilient to drought, pollution, and climate change.

The Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) is an inclusive, civil society-led initiative. They work in partnership with government, local authorities, water companies, businesses, and others, to maximise the natural value of our environment.

The Chalk Stream Restoration Working Group, created by CaBA, has put forward a set of recommendations to protect and restore England's rare chalk streams.

The strategy outlines the threatening current issues in England and what must be done to protect the three key indicators of ecological health:

- Water quantity
- Water quality
- Physical habitats

It recommends enhanced status for chalk streams to drive investment to prevent pollution and over-abstraction, as well as restoring habitat to boost biodiversity.

So, when you see work parties – White Cliffs Countryside Partnership, Environment Agency, Southeast Rivers Trust – remember they are doing their best to reduce pollution (including litter), remove obstacles, create fish and eel passes, and enabling a more vigorous (cleaning) flow. Spend a little time with them; ask how the river is doing and, maybe, what can be done by the community to enhance our wonderful watery Utopia.



Brown Trout

Dour Activities with the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership

Winter is a quiet time and volunteers, and children's activities are mostly on hold until April when the fish have stopped spawning and the river can be explored once again.

There is a huge need for education about chalk streams, so Our Finest Dour has recently held a series of webinars in partnership with Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership on the Dour and Stour rivers which focus on the importance of them.

Also held was a children's educational walk in Half Term.

And finally...

Look out for the River Dour (and other local Dover sites) that appeared on Channel 5 Kate Humble's Coastal Britain in early February. This will probably be available on the internet Catch-Up service.



River Dour at Ladywell

Here are Some Memories of My Dover Childhood

Jean Cooper

My memories may not be 100% accurate, and are not in chronological order, but I have done my best.

Writing this, I was made to realise how privileged I was - because I think that a childhood such as mine no longer can happen in the modern 'civilized' world.

My Gran was born in Dover, and her son, my father, at No. 11 East Cliff.

I was born a couple of months before the war, so obviously, my memories are mostly of post-war Dover, but I can remember sleeping in the caves, in a bunk bed with a tartan rug over me.

I do not remember the trams, but I did get my first bike stuck in the tracks, twisting



Jean Cooper's Mum East Cliff 1942

the front wheel. I remember the coal truck trundling up and down the cliff at the bottom of East Cliff, carrying coal up to the Castle.

There were stories of Gran meeting a German Paratrooper up the cliff path, she did not report it to the authorities - because she said, 'Even though he had a German accent, you could tell he was a gentleman.' That was the Gran that would send me all the way up to the Co-op for a box of matches - the Co-op Divi was a big thing.

The beach played a major part of our lives. Boats were kept on the beach, and my dad had a rowing boat and nine lobster pots. The smell of nets being mended in the kitchen before the season started drove my mother mad. The lobsters, crabs and prawns were sold to the White Cliffs Hotel (large prawns made 3d. each). Some Saturday nights many who lived in the street went prawning off the Castle jetty. I was spoilt, being an only child. My dad had made me a small net and a short pole, and I had a canvas satchel to put my catch in. We gathered limpets and put them on a skewer for bait. I once caught a very large lobster in my small net, and my dad had to help me lift it in.

I remember hanging upside down on the seafront railings, why I do not know. There were excursions up to the two sets of swings at the Bleriot Monument, where the boys did their utmost to take the swings over the top.

We played Tin Can Copper up Athol Terrace.

Around the country this street game is known by various names with differing rules, including Runouts, Kick the Can, Blocky 123, Rally Ho, Tin Can Tolly and Three Stones. Editor

The bus shelter is still there - just. Some of us children would run round and round it in the evening so the courting couples would very often give us pennies to go away.



Athol Terrace, Dover

We could walk along the sea's edge dragging holey enamel buckets just where the beach and sea meet - catching sprats. My dad would roll them in flour and fry them.

Neap tides were very exciting - and muddy. Nothing valuable was ever found and there was trouble from grown-ups when you went home smothered in smelly, sticky mud - but wonderful.

Excitement was also provided on hot days by lining up jelly fish and seeing whose melted first. Sometimes there were Portuguese Man-Of-War further out and Starfish.

The only downside I can remember was the torment of my hand-knitted Fair Isle swimming costume that steamed in the sun after a swim and accumulated what felt like a ton of pebbles in the crotch when coming out of the water.

Dover Wombles

Deborah Gasking

Look out for the strip of 'garden' alongside the entire length of Morrisons supermarket.

From this Spring and hopefully well into Autumn, it should become a wonderful mass of colour and texture.

All that is required now is a little maintenance - pruning, pulling out self-seeded Buddleia which the bees certainly love, but it would take over the entire site. As it is, pollinating insects, including bees, are becoming plentiful; the whole becoming a scrumptious buzzing green corridor.

With Transition Dover, we planted thousands of bulbs in the planters in Cannon Street and Biggin Street from the Market Square through to the Town Hall. We also filled the planters in Dour Street and the boat that resides on the lawn at the back of The Duchess pub, facing York Street.

Litter picking continues along Shakespeare Beach after a couple of months during which we were planting the bulbs. Sadly, we recovered a huge amount of fishing line; in itself fatal for marine life, but with the hooks still attached it could lead to injury and disease from possible tetanus.

Looking Back

When Oxford Bags Were All The Rage

Terry Sutton

Well, we are well into 2022 now, with plenty of problems for our country and our town. But there were probably even more problems one hundred years ago, back in 1922.

There were big changes politically in the country with back-room Conservatives breaking down the Tory-Liberal coalition government, of which David Lloyd George was the prime minister, replacing him with Andrew Bonar Law as prime minister, heading a 75-Conservative majority in the House of Commons. It was the first time the Tories had held power since 1906.

There was still the widespread fear of Communism, or what the Dover Express described as more extreme Socialism, in Dover and elsewhere.

There remained considerable unrest in Dover among the unemployed, the number of which topped 1,100 before the end of 1922. At one stage the police had to fight a crowd of jobless off the steps of the Town Hall. Buckland Mill, Dover's biggest employer, was on short time.

This unrest came despite the efforts of Dover Borough Council to create work including the formation of River Athletic Ground, the widening of Crabble Hill, and the completion of the widening of Green Lane at Buckland. There was even talk of completion of the long proposed Cliff Road to St Margaret's Bay but that proved too expensive. In November the Council bought Pencester Meadow (now Pencester Gardens) for £5,000 but no action was approved about the future of the land.

One bright piece news was the expansion of work at the ship-breaking industry at East Cliff where about six hundred were employed (although poorly paid). The arrival at East Cliff of four of the earlier class of Dreadnoughts for demolition brought some hope. But there was still no progress in the massive project of creating a huge dry dock in the harbour, an idea first considered in 1920. Both Snargate Street and Bench Street were repaved—with wooden blocks!

Earlier hopes of providing many jobs in Dover through the export, and the fuelling of ships, with Kent coal, slipped behind with problems in the industry. Tilmanstone Colliery was in danger of closing down as well as Snowdown.

One of the biggest problems for the country was the continuing state of affairs in Ireland and this had a big impact on the number of troops in the Dover garrison, with at least two of the regiments sent there, resulting in a considerable loss to the local economy. The national "Geddes Axe" (reducing the wages of those employed, including troops) was another blow to the economy.

In January 1922 the Irish government narrowly voted (64-57) to accept the treaty setting up the Irish Free State and arrangements for Northern Ireland. This resulted, throughout the year, in IRA killings, with Protestant-Catholic riots in Belfast and elsewhere. Dover-based troops were sent there to try to keep the peace.

There was plenty of in-fighting politically in Dover where, in November, the three

parties seeking seats on the town council were: The Municipal Conservative Party, the National Citizens' Union, and the Trades and Labour Council. There was a very poor turn-out of voters with one National Citizens' member elected with the remainder all Conservatives.

But this in-fighting was even more bitter in the 1922 general election. Major Astor's Conservative Party took on sitting MP Sir Thomas Polson who called himself an Independent but really represented "die hard" right wing Tories. Polson had previously won the Dover seat with the help of national character Horatio Bottomley MP who later in the year was jailed for seven years for fraud through his spurious Victory Bonds.

Major Astor won the seat easily with the Liberal candidate in third place. Astor remained Dover's MP for years ahead.

While all this was going on Dover did well out of tourism with again calls to scrap the trams, which ran through the town centre on tram lines, to replace them with trackless trams. The existing tram lines were said to be in a "terrible state."

There was still a debate over the provision of a civic war memorial in Dover. "Little progress on this issue," reported the Dover Express. The war memorial at the Duke of York's Royal Military School was unveiled in June by the Duke of Connaught.

A number of Dover's more wealthy young men had taken to the latest national craze of wearing Oxford Bags, voluminous trousers, while the girls were hoping, and singing, 'I wish I could Shimmy like my sister Kate.' But more Dovorians were taken up in November to listening, for the first time, news being broadcast on their wireless sets.



Oxford Bags. These are about 40 inches

They heard of the activities of the Fascist, Benito Mussolini's "March on Rome." Few had yet heard of a German bloke called Hitler. But these were early signs that democracy in parts of Europe was beginning to crumble.

The Medical Officer of Health for Dover reported to the Town Council that cases of influenza had occurred to such an extent over the weekend that on Monday 16th January he had closed the School Clinic and fourteen schools in the town. The remaining schools were to close on 17th January. Cinemas were to be closed to children and it was recommended that Sunday schools be closed, private and public children's parties to be discontinued and children prevented from gathering together. Editor



March on Rome 1922 L to R Italo Balbo, Benito Mussolini, Cesare Maria de Vecchi and Michele Bianchi

British Listed Buildings Website

Janet Dagys

Dover Society Refurbishment Committee

The British Listed Buildings website at <https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/> is an online database of buildings and structures that are listed as being of special architectural and historic interest. There are just under 500,000 buildings in the UK to which this applies. This website is entirely user supported and viewers are encouraged to take part in the Photography Challenge by taking and posting photographs of buildings that lack a photograph.

I found that the easiest way to search for listed buildings in a specific area was to enter the town or village name in the search window, for example, 'Dover' and then to click on the location link which was 'Dover, Kent.' When the location 'Dover Kent' is clicked, a list of all the listed buildings in Dover with links is displayed and a Google Streetview map with each listed building location indicated.

Clicking on an individual listed building link brings up a webpage for that building with its official listing data, location on a map in Google Streetview and in some cases, a current photograph.

For a building to be included on the list, it must be a man-made structure that survives in something at least approaching its original state. All buildings built before 1700 which survive in anything like their original condition are listed, as are most of those built between 1700 and 1840. The criteria become tighter with time, so that post-1945 buildings have to be exceptionally important to be listed.

A listed building may not be demolished, extended, or altered without special permission from the local planning authority, though an exemption is provided for some church buildings in current use.

There are three types of listed status for buildings in England and Wales:

Grade I: buildings of exceptional interest, sometimes considered to be internationally important (2.5% of listed buildings)

Grade II*: particularly important buildings of more than special interest (5.5% of listed buildings)

Grade II: buildings of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve them (92% of all listed buildings and the most likely grade of listing for a private residential building)

Dover has 135 listed buildings, four of which are Grade I (Dover Castle, Church of St. Mary Castro, Roman Pharos, Maison Dieu Hall), 10 of which are Grade II* (Church of St Andrew in Buckland, Church of St Peter and St Paul, People of Dover War Memorial, Castle Hill House, Library at Dover College, Ruins of Cloisters to west of Refectory at Dover College, School Hall at Dover College, School Chapel at Dover College, St Edmund's Chapel, Church of St Mary) and 121 Grade II.

Guston has 19 listed buildings, one of which is Grade II* (Church of St. Martin of Tours) and 18 Grade II most of which are at the Duke of York's Royal Military School.

Hougham has 14 listed buildings, three of

which are Grade II* (St. Radegund's Abbey) and 11 Grade II.

Langdon has 14 listed buildings, four of which are Grade II* (Barn About 20 Metres North East of Jossenblock, Jossenblock, Langdon Abbey, Church of St. Augustine) and 10 Grade II.

River has 17 listed buildings, one of which is Grade II* (Crabble Mill) and 16 Grade II.

St. Margaret's has 34 listed buildings, one of which is Grade I (Church of St Margaret), four of which are Grade II* (Transmitter Tower (tower 2), Transmitter site at former Swingate Chain Home Radar Station, Church of St. Peter, Dover Patrol Monument, Wallet's Court) and 29 Grade II.

Temple Ewell has five listed buildings, one of which is Grade II* (Church of St Peter and St Paul) and four Grade II.

Whitfield has six listed buildings, one of which is Grade II* (Church of St Peter I) and five Grade II.

I found it very interesting to view the British Listed Buildings website and to visit the listing buildings in Dover and surrounding areas. I now have a much greater appreciation for how important it is to conserve them.

Perhaps Dover Society members could join the British Listed Buildings Website Photo Challenge and take & post photographs of listed buildings in the Dover area which currently lack a photograph.

National Open Garden Scheme

Deborah Gasking

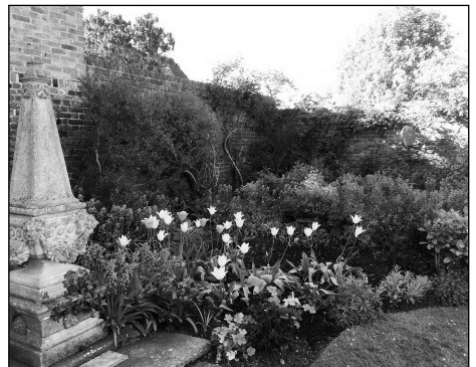
For some reason, this was cut off from last month's newsletter. So here you go:

For the very first time, Dover will be displaying a set of gardens this year – including mine . . .

But, fabulously, our Morrisons Garden will be highlighted as a community garden and indicated on the map showing where the gardens are. Conveniently, it nestles along the route between a garden in Guston and mine so visitors can easily park and wander alongside it.

This year there are four gardens, but if anyone has a garden, or knows someone who does, that could be included next year, then we could have a bumper crop to display what Dover can achieve.

Either get in touch with the Open Garden Scheme or drop me a line.



Open Gardens Sandwich

Planning Committee

Graham Margery

Chairman Planning Committee

Over the Christmas and New Year period things were a little quieter on the planning front. Nevertheless, the Planning Committee continued with the relentless task of overseeing planning applications so that, since the last newsletter, we have reviewed some 110 applications that are potentially of interest and made formal response to Dover District Council in respect of 31 of them.

Town Centre Improvements: We commented in the last newsletter on the proposed changes to the Market Square and I am sure many of you have now seen the contractors at work bringing the plan to fruition. Canterbury Archaeological Trust was allowed the opportunity for a limited excavation to reveal and record part of the foundations of the Medieval Guild Hall dating from 1605 and subsequently they have been conducting a watching brief to see what might be exposed as the contractors dig out for foundations and services. This involves snatching the odd half hour between periods of digging to record what is found before it is destroyed or re-buried. Apart from the Guildhall foundations, other finds include the metalled surfaces from earlier times in the square. In King Street the medieval foundations have been found of the buildings demolished as part of the road widening scheme in 1826. Of particular interest has been an important medieval stone built coffin cut into a number of earlier graves probably dating to the 13th Century. These belong to the churchyard of St Martin le Grand which originally extended into what is now the Market Square. These were not excavated through lack of time but have been recorded, protected and re-buried. See the separate article from Charles Lynch about

our ongoing discussions with the Local Authority.

Marina Curve: You may remember that the controversial scheme to construct a motel on the Marina Curve using shipping containers was withdrawn after considerable opposition. Subsequently the scheme was amended to use slightly larger modules rather than shipping containers, but the design was still modern and, in our opinion, not in keeping with the heritage of our iconic waterfront. The plan for a commercial building alongside was unchanged. Both of these schemes have now been granted planning approval. We wait to see if the expected beneficial impact that this would have for the town as a whole is realised in practice and brings the much needed regeneration of the local economy.

BP Service Station: Dover seems to be quite well served with various carwash facilities from fully automated to self-service and the ever popular hand wash. A planning application has been submitted for a self-service car wash attached to the BP service station in Folkestone Road close to the Priory Road roundabout. It will be sited at the rear of the premises and back onto the properties in Saxon Street which are Grade II listed buildings within the Dover College Conservation Area. Although a wall and screens will be erected, we are still concerned about the effects of spray and noise since, as the application stands, it could operate day and night every day. Although we are not opposed to the idea of a local business expanding its activities, we object to the operation going ahead without any time restrictions to minimise nuisance to the adjoining properties.

Discovery Centre: The Dover Discovery Centre was built in the late 1980s and closed as a visitor attraction in 1999. It currently houses the museum, library, the Roundhouse Theatre, an education centre, the Registry Office, and other ancillary rooms. A plan involves "the relocation of the Children's Services Team and provision for The Good Day Programme to the site, redevelopment of the library and adult education offering, with improved public access, and opportunity for an improved co-ordinated service, as well as bringing higher footfall to the town centre. The scheme also improves public access to both the archaeology which sits below the building, the external ruins of the St. Martin's Le Grand Church and the Classis Britannica Fort. The proposals have provided an opportunity to incorporate the provision of a walk-in archive facility and education room within the Dover District Council owned area, which provides an opportunity to co-

locate the Dover District Council and Kent County Council local studies archive within one single space. The proposed archive facility will provide improved facilities for those undertaking local studies research and allow enhanced access to the extensive artefacts and ephemera held by the Museum." The scheme will cost over seven million pounds. One casualty to the project will be the Roundhouse Theatre which will be lost and although DDC claim to be assisting drama groups to relocate elsewhere, it is hard to imagine how that will succeed.

On the positive side, making the important archaeology accessible to the public is to be welcomed since so much of the town's priceless history has been destroyed or remains buried.

May I wish you all a very belated Happy New Year as we look forward to a progressive return to some sort of normality.

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Refurbishment Committee Jenny Olpin

We are pleased that Refurb has now returned to a blend of face to face and Zoom meetings. We are now relocated to The Smart Project premises next to the Yacht Club which will be lovely in the summer months. We are also pleased to welcome four new members to Refurb, Carol Duffield, Lesley Easton, James Benjafield and Ben Elfey. They bring fresh thought and energy which is always welcome! We continue with our core agenda of the town appearance, cleanliness, litter, rights of way and tourism but thought you would be interested in my October visit to Kent Police, Dover, to give you a flavour as to the issues and discussions.

October 2022 Meeting with Detective Inspector Dan Carter

'Operation Sark,' the code name for the sad case of the murder of Julia James, had resulted in an extremely busy period for Kent Police (Dover). Although supported by other Kent areas the investigation was led by Dover. The total saturation of door-to-door inquiries, and the engagement with the communities in close proximity to the Snowdon woodland, resulted in an arrest and CI Carter expressed his gratitude in the support that was given to the police by the public.

The success of this investigation, speed and local engagement is now being drafted as a model/blueprint for Police Forces throughout the Country. Generally, crime in Dover is low. Trends are that burglary is very low whereas domestic violence is sadly increasing. There is a lot of activity with the Community Safety Unit at Dover District Council. Their Officers based at DDC are Inspector Paul Burrell and Sergeant Leigh Woolnough where activities are linked throughout the district, especially in rural

areas, with PCSO's who continue to be a crucial element of the policing team.

The PCSO's currently have an initiative called 'coffee with a cop'!! This community drive is also part of the impact from Operation Sark to build confidence in local policing.

High on the policing agenda is violence against women and girls and there are plans for a public engagement event that may be held monthly and includes Protection of Vulnerable People (PVP). Discussed at length was the impact on Officers following the case of Wayne Couzens and how the public image of the Police Force has suffered.

With reference to the pressure of County Lines DI Carter said that the success of their regular meetings with the Dover schools has resulted in a reduction in drug related issues involving our school children. Ashford and London are currently key areas.

Also discussed were the recent press and social media coverage of the appointment of Police Cadets. This again is to encourage young people to consider a police career and to improve the image of policing amongst teenagers. The initiative also includes visiting our local primary schools where children are appointed to be 'mini' cadets. These engagements are well covered on Twitter by following Kent Police (Dover).

Our next biannual meeting will be held in this month so do let us know if there are any issues you may like to be discussed.

I would also like to direct you to the article by our member Janet Dagsy regarding our current Listed Buildings project. This is very interesting and informative, and I am sure you will enjoy it.

Cowgate and the Wood Wide Web

Deborah Gasking

What is everywhere; but easy to miss?

What's inside you and on you?

What sustains you and all that you depend upon?

They eat rock, make soil, digest pollutants, nourish and kill plants.

What reduces collapse disorder in honeybees?

What can survive in space and influence the composition of earth's atmosphere?

What can digest a most common litter problem – cigarette butts?

They are used to make alcohol, vaccines, antibiotics, anti-virals and fizzy drinks.

No, not a Christmas cracker conundrum...

The answer is (drum roll) fungi!

Five hundred million years ago

Plants made their exit from a watery life because of their collaboration with fungi – their root system for tens of millions of years. But first, colonies of lichens – a union of algae and fungi – needed to establish on glacial and volcanic rock to make soil in which plants could grow. This ancient association between plants and fungi gave rise to all recognisable life on land.

Hundreds of species exist in the leaves and stems of a single plant, weaving their way between the plant's cells, helping defend those plants against disease. No naturally grown plant is without these fungi; they are as much a part of the plant as its roots and leaves.

Metabolic wizards

Many fungi create multi-cell networks – (hyphae), - branches of fine tubular structures, fusing and tangling in an unruly filigree of mycelium: an

exploratory, irregular process – rather than a 'thing', – through which water and nutrients flow.

The metabolic ingenuity of the hyphae allows fungi to forge a wide variety of relationships, such as with the leafcutter ant whose colonies, often larger than 30 metres across with over eight million ants, revolve around a fungus which they cultivate and feed with the leaf fragments. This fungus then becomes their nutritious larder.

There again

Fungi can cause diseases in nature such as Dutch elm disease, chestnut blight; also rice blast fungus which ruins crops that could have fed over sixty million people a year. This impact is increasing across the world, and widespread use of antifungal chemicals has led to new fungal superbugs.



Chestnut Blight

But

The relationship between fungi and plants is now called mycorrhizal, an extremely important and effective way of extending the root area of plants by as much as a hundred times. Mycorrhizal mycelium is a sticky living seam that holds soil together. Remove the fungi and the ground washes away: mycorrhizal fungi increase the volume of water that the soil can absorb, which reduces the leaching out of nutrients by rainfall by as much as 50%. Today, more than 90% of all plant species depend on mycorrhizal fungi. Plants' relationships with mycorrhizal fungi underpin much of life on land. For a thriving relationship, they must have a good metabolic match – the plant photosynthesises carbon, sugars, and lipids on which mycorrhizal fungi, growing within the plant roots, feed. The plants gain water and minerals from the fungi's scavenging.

A scarcity of phosphorous could limit plant growth, but mycorrhizal fungi excel at mining phosphorous from soil and transplant it to their plant partners; the plants grow bigger and better, drawing down carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The more plants live, the more they die



Part of the Fungi Network

and thence more carbon becomes buried in soils and sediments. Less carbon is then in the atmosphere.

But

A large study published in 2018, suggested that the 'alarming deterioration' of the health of trees across Europe was caused by a disruption of their mycorrhizal relationships, brought about by nitrogen pollution.

More good stuff

Research has shown that beneath every forest and wood there is a complex underground web of roots, fungi, and bacteria, helping to connect trees and plants to one another. This subterranean social network, nearly five hundred million years old, has become known as the Wood Wide Web. It allows another level of interaction – not only back and forth between the fungus and the plant, but also between neighbouring plants using fungi as a thoroughfare. As the fungal threads spread, they can link up to multiple plants, creating webs known as Common Mycorrhizal Networks. Through these networks, plants can exchange sugars, nutrients, water and more.

Individual trees often share with those in need. 'Mother' trees send carbon to seedlings and dying trees donate nutrients to their neighbours. Phosphorous has been observed to pass from the roots of dying plants to those of nearby healthy plants that shared a fungal network. Donations of nutrients and water take place across a 'source-sink' gradient, whereby a plant that is rich in a particular resource will give its excess to those in need.

It appears that by staying connected, plants can provide mutual support and help shape the ecosystems they inhabit. With all their inhabitants linked up,

forests look less like collections of individuals, and more like giant superorganisms.

However

The Wood Wide Web is not confined to woods. Mycorrhizae occur anywhere you find vegetation. The networks they form are complex, often encompassing not just multiple plants but multiple species and, depending on the type of fungi involved, different materials can be exchanged. In the past few years, researchers have demonstrated that plants connected to the Wood Wide Web can exchange more than just nutrients.

For example, when broad bean plants come under attack by aphids, they release chemicals that not only repel their attackers, but also attract wasps that prey on the aphids. It is an ingenious, two-pronged defence strategy.

Self-serving?

When different species of plant are connected to the same fungal network, they will invest less in sustaining the fungi. If fungal networks are benefitting a plant's rivals, why invest in them?

Like its online counterpart, the Wood Wide Web has a dark side. For every birch donating carbon to its fir neighbours, there is an orchid stealing carbon from nearby trees. For every plant that informs others of a disease outbreak, another sends out toxins to kill its rivals.

And there is more

No single fungus has the monopoly in the Wood Wide Web. Ecosystems are riddled with non-mycorrhizal mycelium. Decomposer fungi range widely over large distances, linking decaying leaves with fallen twigs, large rotting stumps with decomposing roots; record-breaking

networks of honey fungus stretch for kilometres. These fungi make up webs based around consuming plants rather than sustaining them.

A number of plant species produce chemicals that stunt or kill plants growing nearby.

Bacteria

Metabolic wizards that can explore, scavenge, and salvage, mycelia are rivalled only by bacteria. Fungal networks provide highways for bacteria to migrate around the obstacle course of soil. Predatory bacteria sometimes use mycelial networks to pursue and hunt their prey.

Yet some, living within fungal hyphae themselves, enhance fungal growth, stimulate metabolisms, produce key vitamins, and even influence fungal relationships with their plant partners. One fungal species, the thick-footed morel, actually farms bacteria that live within its networks as a food source.

Abundancy

We all live and breathe fungi in the form of their spores which are discharged explosively, some accelerating 10,000 times faster than a space shuttle launch, – up to hundreds of kilometres per hour.

Mycorrhizal fungi are so prolific, their mycelium makes up between a third and a half of the living mass of soils. The total length of mycorrhizal hyphae (long filament branches in fungi) in the top ten centimetres of soil is around half the width of our galaxy.

However

Losing chunks of the Wood Wide Web could well increase “the feedback loop” of warming temperatures and carbon emissions.

Which could also influence

Fungi can break down some of our planet's most stubborn substances such as rock, crude oil, polyurethane plastics, and explosive TNT. Chernobyl, site of the nuclear disaster, is home to a large population of fungi, some of which actively grow towards radioactive particles, appearing to harness the radiation.

Other clever stuff

Some fruiting bodies, like the shaggy ink cap mushroom, can push through asphalt and lift heavy paving slabs. Some varieties of mycelium conduct waves of electricity.

And so, back to where we started

What can be used to filter polluted water, including removing heavy metals? A Finnish firm use this approach to reclaim gold from electronic waste!

What are used in a Danish harbour to mop up fuel spills?

What have African termites been using in their nine metre high mounds for over twenty million years to decompose wood for them to eat?

They induce visions, produce food, and make medicines.

They grow building material and textiles that are lightweight, water-resistant and fire retardant to, replace plastics and leather.

And what species remains more than 90% undocumented?



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Memories of Dover

A Nostalgic Personal Perambulation.

Part Three - Bridge Street to Town Hall

Peter Sherred

Before I progress further with my perambulations around the town I would like to thank, once again, John Richards who raised with me the reference to the "Elephant and Hind" pub and its previous incarnations. It was, once upon a time, two pubs, the "Walmer Castle" and the "Duchess of Kent." The two merged in the early 1960's and the "Elephant and Hind" opened in October 1964. Fremlins had, as part of its logo, an elephant and in the Whitbread logo was a hind, so presumably it was thought appropriate that the new business was called the "Elephant and Hind." I thank John for drawing this to our attention.

Continuing my perambulations, I recall that my family lived in rented accommodation in the High Street where, following my father's death at the early age of forty-two, my mother, sister and I lived until the 1970's. These were days before the widespread availability of things we take for granted today - such as the television, refrigerators, freezers, central heating, and indoor WC's and, of course, rationing continued well beyond the end of the Second World War. We hear much today of 'austerity' but in the early 1950's people experienced real austerity without the availability of the support structures that exist today. Yet somehow there was a great community spirit. The terrace of properties in the High Street where we lived, for example, had a real neighbourly feel about it embraced, as it was, by a willingness to help each other. In reflecting on Dover then and now and having focussed on the main street from the Town Hall to the Seafront, I turn the focus now on the High Street between Bridge Street and Ladywell. Before doing so I remember the

town generally, and especially between these two roads, was dominated by a manufacturing plant that bordered Charlton Green, Maison Dieu Road and Bridge Street, known as the Dover Engineering Works - Gatic, manufacturers, among other things, of manhole covers I seem to recall. The plant had quite an impact on the town because of its smoke emissions, particularly when there was low cloud, for the emissions would linger over the town with a scent not too different from bad eggs! Windows had to remain firmly closed! The firm was a major source of employment, but I doubt current Planning or Health and Safety regulations would permit such a complex in a town centre! It eventually closed and was demolished, along with a dairy and milk bottling plant owned by the Dover and District Co-op at Crafford Street. Today the site forms the area where the Morrisons and Asda stores and associated retail outlets and the large flat open carpark that serves them, are located. A distinct environmental improvement!

So, as one walked from Bridge Street towards the Town Hall, what has changed? Well, quite a lot. In the 1950's there was an almost



Engineering Works

continuous line of small retail units throughout its length on the left-hand side (LHS) going towards the Town Hall together with the then functioning Royal Victoria Hospital in which I had to seek treatment on two occasions, (the hospital was converted into the residential apartments we see today). On the right hand side (RHS) there was a more mixed frontage comprising residential, commercial, and retail units, as well as a Salvation Army citadel and a United Reformed Church.

Let us start at Bridge Street and see what the little grey cells can remember on the LHS. The National Provincial Bank was located at the junction with the High Street. Then came Vanes the baker shop and, remarkably, it is still there and functioning! In the 1950's I recall that Good Friday was respected more than it is today and the only shops that would be open, probably only in the morning, were the fresh fish shops and Vanes - the former to satisfy Catholic tastes' the latter to provide the most tasty of Hot Cross Buns. Two or three doors down from there was arguably my favourite shop as a child - Doyle & Son, the toy shop! Here I would go and buy my Indian and Cowboy figures but, more importantly, my meagre pocket money was saved up so I could buy Dinky Toys. How I regret disposing of my collection as I grew up, for the prices they attract these days would have landed me a small fortune! The shop on the corner of Peter Street, currently a chemist, was Dunford's Greengrocery.

Peter Street was interesting as it was quite narrow, but it connected High Street with Maison Dieu Road, running right through the Engineering Works site. It came out nearly opposite The Grapes public house (now the Louis Armstrong) and I took this route daily when I first attended St Ursula's Convent Junior School, then located in Salisbury Road in a building called Claremont (now redeveloped for housing). There was another

little pub at the top of Peter Street, near its junction with High Street, called The Friend in Need and I remember a rag and bone merchants' premises nearby as well, Castle & Son, I believe. Eventually Peter Street was stopped up for about two thirds of its length and the exit from the current car park is just about where it used to have its junction with Maison Dieu Road.

Crossing Peter Street, on the corner opposite Dunford's greengrocery was a large shop owned by the Grilli family which was a confectioners-cum-coffee shop that also sold lovely ice cream. Some years later it became an Indian Restaurant called, not surprisingly I guess, the Taj Mahal where I was to have quite an experience involving one of the hottest of Indian curry dishes! A few of the shops that followed included a newsagent called Dennis, a tobacconist's (Casselden?), and a little way down Morecrofts, the Ironmongers, beside which was a private house with a front garden. Then there was a butcher's shop before another greengrocery shop run by the Tyler family. George Tyler, a contemporary of mine, subsequently became a Oolitec Councillor, lived in Alkham, and then moved to France. Almost opposite our house (on the terrace (on the RHS)) was a shop called Hills which specialised in prams and other essential baby requirements before it became a laundrette (remember them?). A large grocery store, by the standards of the time, and butchers called David Greig Ltd was immediately opposite our house. It was a double fronted shop, I remember, with groceries served by the LHS entrance and the butchers served by the RHS entrance. Then came a fresh fish shop - managed by Alec Howell and a few doors down an off-licence and wine shop, which could have been another John Lukey outlet although I believe it was called Croftons (like the sherry Croft but with 'ons; added!), with more small shops including another fishmonger, a hardware store, a pet shop, and even another small pub, called I believe, The

Angel, before we reached a large store called Lant and Marshall outfitters, selling outdoor clothing including jeans! (this shop is now a computer repair centre called Pharos, I believe). An interesting consequence of the parade of all these small shops from Bridge Street down was that people, such as my mother, used to shop daily there because of the convenience and ease of access to them. Anchor butter and New Zealand Lamb loomed large in the grocery and butcher's worlds respectively I seem to recall - this before we abandoned New Zealand in favour of the EEC. In respect of greengrocery produce, we were very dependent on seasonal availability rather than the vast array of produce we have all year round in our Supermarkets today. So it was that Spring Greens were available in the Spring while the first sight of Brussels Sprouts meant that Christmas was not far away! Celery always heralded the coming of winter and the helpfulness of frosts! Soft fruits were very much only available in the brief summer months.

Of course, all these properties, from Peter Street to adjoining Lant and Marshalls, were demolished as a wholesale redevelopment gripped this area of the town when the Charlton Shopping Centre complex, complete with multi story carpark off Dour Street, was built. This redevelopment also accounted for Crundall's wood yard at the bottom of the aptly named Wood Street. It was suggested this complex would transform Dover and relocate the shopping experience into a new Town Centre. It never happened, despite the valiant efforts of my dear old and much-lamented late friend Ron Dryden as the General Manager. The problem was the quality of the build did not match up to expectation, in my view, and as far as I am aware it was never fully occupied on both levels as expected. It did have an 'anchor' tenant initially - a Sainsbury store but that did not last overlong, and the complex has limped along with changing shops and stores ever

since. The centre of gravity of the retail experience in the town did not change as anticipated and then, of course, other developments both within the town and on the outskirts detracted from the Centre. On the corner of Peter Street and High Street there are now the High Street and Peter Street Doctors' Practices.

Moving on from Lant and Marshalls store, on the corner of Wood Street was a large old-fashioned chemists called Leonard D Cox and I have memories of those very large, coloured glass containers with bottle stops one used to see in such chemists. On the corner of Maison Dieu Place was John Scrase music and record shop - radio and television engineers - now a hairdressing salon. Past the Royal Victoria Hospital was a lovely little shop where I remember one could take a basin and purchase pease pudding and also dripping - lovely on bread seasoned with salt! The Mason's Arms pub came just before the shop unit where Jack Bailey, a lovely man, ran his dispensing opticians' practice. Between there and Ladywell was another cluster of shops including another pet shop and the Co-op laundry and on the corner with Ladywell was another chemist called Hilton's. So much of the character of the LHS of the High Street was lost with the wholesale redevelopment for the Charlton Centre - a great shame.

Now let us go back once again to Bridge Street and come down the RHS of the High Street to the area of the Town Hall. First, we cross the High Street to the RHS where on the corner with Tower Hamlets Road was a boot and shoe repair shop called Deans (it subsequently became a shop for the sale of video's but is occupied now by an accountancy firm) beside which was a little, but very popular, café. The row of residential properties (that still exist today) ran down as far as the garage but just before the garage was a shop unit that was set back from the frontage and was once occupied by Kent Photo's run by Pat and Joe Court

before they relocated to King Street. The garage was an interesting feature. Currently it operates as a funeral service, but I remember it housed the H J Sawyer funeral and taxi service and there were petrol pumps at the front (long since gone). Horace Sawyer had a fleet of beautiful old Rolls Royce limousines and hearse which he used for his funeral service, and these had to be reversed into the garage which extended a fair way back. He had a chapel of rest and my father in 1955 set out on his final journey from this place.

Beyond the garage was a raised terrace of properties and I was born in number 81. At the end of the terrace was a café which in due time became the quite popular Good Luck Chinese Restaurant, now boarded up. Between the shop at the end of the terrace, to what was A T Blackman's business, currently is to be found the relatively new array of shops which includes Iceland, and these replaced several interesting properties and their businesses. After the shop at the end of the terrace of residential properties there was an open space we called the caves, probably wartime air raid shelters in the chalk but, post war, fronted by large advertising billboards. Those who remember Bernard Cunnington (Bunny) will remember that the family grocery business had its main shop just down from the open space - A. (Arthur) T. Cunnington and I enjoyed holidays working with the firm. Turnpenney had a large shop frontage for their furniture store and there was a small confectionary shop with the most gorgeous homemade sweets. I do not know why, but I have a feeling this was run by two brothers, one or both having a connection with the East Kent buses. Then we came to A.T Blackman & Son plumbers, heating engineers and kitchen fitters. Bill Blackman was a long-time member of the Rotary Club and his second son, Richard, was a very active Rotoractor as well as a member of South Foreland Rotary Club. The 'Silver Grill' fish and chip shop run by the Reardon family

(where I also earned a few bob doing odd jobs and where one could buy a good six pennyworth of chips and fish) was next and then came the Salvation Army Citadel. In those days the Salvation Army had a significant presence in the town, and I well remember each Sunday its band used to march up the High Street making a merry din, with tambourines waving and instruments played with energy - not always appreciated by local residents who felt Sunday was a day of rest to sleep in bed undisturbed! My local hairdresser, a rather old-fashioned place but a good service, came next (this may have been under the name of Don Stibber) and if memory serves me correct, either that or its next door property, became the Dover offices of the Dover Express, but no doubt Terry Sutton will indicate if my memory is failing me here.

Victoria Crescent (which still exists) was mainly residential but Fred Greenstreet, bootmaker, relocated here and there was also a chiropodist (Mr Stubbs?) working in the Crescent. Beyond the Crescent was the United and Reform Church which is currently scaffolded and being converted into flats. Among shop units between Priory Hill and Effingham Crescent there was an off licence - John Lukey again! - right opposite the Town Hall (where The Allotment restaurant is now) and also Jarman and Watts dry cleaners. On the corner with Effingham Crescent was a soft furnishing and haberdashery store called Sharps. Just across Effingham Crescent on Priory Road was a Rediffusion South East outlet (who remembers those?) which became E R Longley electrical contractors and beyond that a celebrated dental surgery - where one Ron Proudler practised, who at one stage became the National President of Rotary in the UK. On that note I will stop at this point, but I hope these quick nostalgic trips down memory lane have brought back some memories for readers. So much changes and yet so much stays the same.

PROGRAMME 2021/22

Non-members are welcome at all meetings except that only members may vote at the Annual General Meeting. You may join, pay on the night and vote at the meeting.

March 21 **Speaker: Andrew Richardson**
Monday 7.30 "Three Wars One Soldier"

April 25 **Dover Society Annual General Meeting**
Monday 7.30 Speaker: Martin Crowther
"Reawakening of the Maison Dieu"

Dover Society Summer Trips 2022

The Society is not organising any short breaks as things stand, but here are the trips that are available

September 13 **Denbies Winery, Dorking and NT Polesden Lacey**
Tuesday If members wish at their expense, some wine tasting. Afternoon, visit the
£32.00 National Trust's house and gardens at Polesden Lacey
(Plus £13.30 for non-trust members for entry to Polesden Lacey)

October 5 **Brooklands Museum**
Wednesday See vintage vehicles and aircraft. Includes coffee and
£49.00 cake on arrival and entry to the Concorde experience

Would Society members and anyone else interested in one or both trips please tell me on tel. 01304 852838 or email randdstone29@gmail.com. For full costs, details and itinerary. Pick-up points in Dover to be advised

Short Breaks Organised by Iain

For the Silver Phoenix Travel Club

10th-15th July **Isle of Man**
£665 pp By ferry, with one overnight stay en route

16th -20th Oct **Blackpool Illuminations**
£299 pp

6th-8th Dec **Thursford Spectacular**
£299 pp Bookings to be taken soon

In addition, Iain is organising day trips of which details can be found on the Club's website www.silverphoenixtc.com The Society will not be involved in these arrangements. Members interested should contact Iain direct on mobile 07842 124094. Pick-up points will be in the Canterbury area, and Iain can advise on longer term parking facilities there if required.

December **Dover Society Christmas Lunch**
We are sorry that there is no news at present

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



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