

# Membership News

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Membership £3 per person per year. (1st April - 31st March)

Current Membership is 287.

Welcome to new members who have joined since the last Newsletter.

As promised, members' replies to the special interests sections of application forms have now been collated. At least two thirds of our members completed this section of the form and of these 35 members volunteered expert knowledge or experience from their interests or professions.

As might be expected, the greatest number of replies focussed on DOVER itself. A large number of members listed Dover, or the future of Dover, or the development of Dover, with various people also listing in particular, Local Government, Planning, Politics, the Port, Business Development, Conservation, River Conservation and Tourism.

The second largest section was in HISTORY, with about a quarter of all members listing History as an interest, and many of these mentioning Local History in particular. Some members listed specific interests in periods such as the Roman or Victorian or in historic buildings like St. Edmund's Chapel or Crabble Mill. About ten members expressed a special concern with Archaeology.

Thirdly, in the ARTS, a large number of members listed Art or Painting, some with specific interests in areas like Fine Arts or Stained Glass and a score mentioned Architecture with special reference to Dover Buildings and listed houses. A large number mentioned Music as a main interest. A few members mentioned Choral Singing, Drama, Theatre, Films, Literature, Writing and Reading. A total of all these categories amounted to about a quarter of all members.

A fourth category of interests embraced the ENVIRONMENT, Open Spaces and Natural History, mentioned by over one-fifth of members. Many of these also mentioned Gardening as a major interest and others listed a main interest in Footpaths and Rights of Way. Other outdoor interests were Sailing, Sea Angling and Ornithology.

Outside these four broad categories, other subjects mentioned were Photography, Travel, Food and Wine, Scottish Dancing, the Girl Guide movement and Patchwork and Quilting.

The summary gives a useful indication of the wide range of interests of Dover Society members. Thank you, all members who contributed to this survey when you filled in the membership application form. This augurs well for a well-informed line-up of teams for the next Wine and Wisdom evening in February.

MERRIL LILLEY, *Membership Secretary*