

GREEN FORUM

"DEAL WITH SEWAGE"

Our Chairman was invited to preside over this meeting, on Wednesday 5th September: a full house at the Quarterdeck, Deal. It was an open public meeting called by the recently formed umbrella group "The Green Forum". Publicity had already been handled well for the hall was truly full. The whole proceedings were videoed, so that other societies can have the opportunity of studying the issues involved.

Southern Water had sent two speakers: Mr Harnett, a scientist, and Mr Shay, an engineer. They both spoke throughout with professional restraint and explained the options, pressures and restrictions within which they worked. They stressed that the preferred option for Deal would not be decided before the end of 1991.

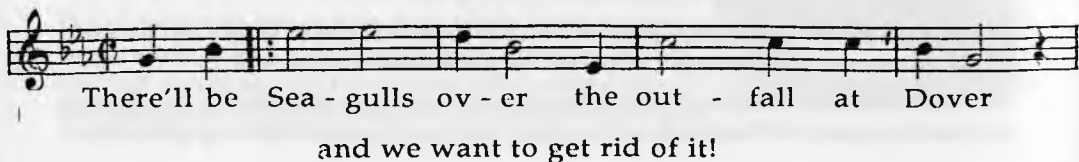
It was unfortunate that a revision of the date of the meeting had prevented a speaker from the National Rivers Authority from coming.

The speaker for the Green Forum was Mr Gowen, late of Anglia University. With some force, and not without humour, he enumerated the dangers, economic and ecological, as well as the loss of amenity which can result from the discharge into rivers and the sea of untreated or incompletely treated sewage.

For Dover District Council Chris Barnett, Director of Health and Housing explained the restricted powers of the Council in matters of sewage disposal. He was personally in favour of posting notices when a beach was below standard and he would press for this.

A. J. W. conducted the meeting with characteristic good humour and firmness; the platform speakers were kept firmly within their time limits, questions from the floor were not permitted to expand into speeches. By the end of the evening all present must have learnt something, including the speakers on the platform. But the "sense of the meeting", as gauged by applause and by a straw poll, did not change. It might be summed up as this: this house would prefer that water should not be in the hands of a profit-making company; does not want a sea outfall, long or short; would favour an inland treatment works, with full, tertiary treatment and which would preferably manufacture compost. All agreed that the present conditions in Deal are unsatisfactory. All agreed that Southern Water was aiming at improving them. The floor of the house clearly wanted maximum improvement. The meeting was purposeful, good tempered and enjoyable.

LEO WRIGHT



THE DOVER SOCIETY

presents a

———— PUBLIC MEETING ————

'SAVE OUR SEWAGE: RESCUE OUR RIVER'

MONDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 1991

7.30 PM AT

ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTRE

CANNON STREET.

speakers from

SOUTHERN WATER COMPANY: NATIONAL RIVER AUTHORITY

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Dovorians are troubled by threats to public health and to their image as a resort by unsatisfactory sewage disposal and polluted beaches. Where would any treatment plant (perhaps to be shared with Folkestone) be sited and how much would it cost?

They are also concerned about the River Dour. Why has it dried up and what can be done to improve its appearance?

Better information should inspire better decisions.

ADMISSION FREE • REFRESHMENTS • ALL WELCOME

66 SEWAGE UPDATE.

A small but important development to report is that, on 31st October, the Health and Housing Committee of Dover District Council unanimously passed a resolution that the results of bathing water quality be widely displayed and published in an understandable form, including notices on the beaches within the district.

One option named by Southern Water is to link Dover and Shepway for sewage disposal. It was therefore essential that we should be represented at the public meeting in FOLKESTONE which was held in the New Metronome Hall on 3rd December. Our Chairman was also invited to chair this meeting, which followed roughly the same pattern as the Deal meeting. There were, however, no speakers from Southern Water or Shepway District Council. The meeting concluded by voting unanimously in favour of the following resolution: "This meeting demands that Southern Water Services adopt a policy of land-based full treatment and composting, and cease passing impure water into rivers and the sea,"

The improvement of sea outfalls is essential and, in DOVER, discussion is urgent because action by Southern Water is scheduled for Dover *before* Deal. Therefore, as already announced at our meetings, we are hosting an open public meeting on 4th February, 1991. This will be held at St. Mary's Parish Centre and will be addressed by qualified, representative speakers. The second half of the evening will be devoted to questions and discussion.

LEO WRIGHT



THE DOVER TRANSPORT MUSEUM APPEAL

MERRIL LILLEY

The Dover Transport Museum Society was formed in February 1990 to promote interest in, and the preservation of, vehicles and items of transport from the past.

From 1985 the museum, in part of Connaught Pumping Station, has been providing a service to the community and helping to attract tourists to the area. The museum opens to the public and to school parties on certain dates in the summer.

Into relatively small exhibition areas, some indoors and some in the surrounding grounds, is crammed the vast collection of working steam engines, locomotives, motor vehicles, bicycles and models of all kinds. Some members of the society have their own collections, some of historic vehicles, some of vintage models and toys.

The Society has wider interests. Meetings are held monthly. Annual events are organised at Waldershare Park, attracting over 500 vintage exhibits. For the last two years the "White Cliffs Country Rally" has been arranged by the Society and the visit of the paddle-steamer "Waverley" in 1989 was a result of their negotiation. Museum exhibits are regularly taken to local fêtes and shows, where the miniature train rides are always a popular attraction.

The collection of items at the Transport Museum deals in a historical and technological area not served by any other establishment in South and East Kent.