

76 *Letters to the Editor*

Dear Editor

As a frequent visitor to Dover, which I enter by the A20, I see the splendid view of the Castle and pass the new, impressive Heritage Centre in York Street. En route I am distressed and outraged by the sight of the former tram shelter, at the junction of Folkestone and Elms Vale Roads, which is being left to disintegrate. Surely it is attractive enough to be preserved and appreciated. Could it not be removed to a safer place where it could be repaired and protected? Are any other members willing to join a group to befriend this neglected shelter?

NAN WILKIE

NUCLEAR WASTE

Dear Ms. Kennedy

In the last edition of our newsletter Mr Woodward made a number of general points regarding the transportation of nuclear flasks through the Port of Dover expressing concern as to the safety of this operation. In response to this I would like to offer the following comment. The movement of all forms of hazardous cargo, including radio-active materials, both on the ferries and through the port is subject to a wide range of National and International regulations. For obvious reasons these are extremely stringent, and the port and shipping operators have teams of specially trained safety officers available at all times to ensure that these regulations are strictly adhered to.

The specific arrangements for the transport of the flasks through Dover have been vetted by the Department of Transport (Nuclear Transport Inspectorate) and the Health and Safety Executive which are responsible for ensuring that the safety and quality assurance standards laid down by the International Atomic Energy Commission are adhered to. As part of that approval process the port and shipping operators are required to demonstrate that proper and effective emergency procedures have been established.

These procedures have been carefully developed in conjunction with the County emergency services and are regularly tested with full-scale exercises.

Contrary to the view expressed by Mr Woodward, the Dover District Council, K.C.C., Police and Kent Fire Brigade have been given comprehensive details of all aspects of flask transfer operations.

Since the nuclear materials are being transported safely and in accordance with nationally and internationally agreed standards there is no perceived need to involve local emergency services when flasks are passing through the port.

Finally members may be interested to know that Nuclear Transport Ltd. will be holding an exhibition at Dover Station between 19th and 26th January to enable local residents to have a clearer understanding of this particular operation, and in addition there will be a typical (but empty!) nuclear flask available for inspection.

JOHN GERRARD

Dear Editor,

Thank you for publishing the article on the Dover Counselling Centre in your last magazine entitled Talking Helps.

I would be grateful if you could make good one omission of mine.

In listing members of the Dover Counselling Centre, I omitted the Dover Harbour Board, who have been constantly involved and supporting and who kindly lend us their building at 9 Cambridge Terrace. Our Chairman is in fact Mr. Michael Krayenbrink, who is a member of the Dover Harbour Board, Management team.

My apologies to them.

Yours faithfully,

S. JANET JOHNSTON
Centre Manager