
THE CHRISTMAS FEAST 1990

The Dover Society has again provided what must be one of the best Christmas events. Indeed these feasts are probably the most enjoyable evenings which I have ever attended, thanks to the careful planning and organisation of Lin Clackett.

The official guests were our Mayor, Cllr. Mrs Young and her husband, Cllr. Young. This is always a busy time of year for Mayors, so we are grateful to our Mayor for gracing us with her presence (and what a relief it must have been to find she and her husband did not have to partake of yet another hot turkey dinner). Another official guest was Tony Rickson, Editor of the Dover Express, and his wife Frances. It is nice to know that our local news show displays such an interest in our Society. The Headmaster of Dover College, Mr Ind, and his wife were also official guests.

The food was again excellent with a marvellous variety to suit all tastes, which is most important in these times when there are more vegetarians and fish-eaters around. The sweet course proved irresistible even to the most weight-conscious guests. The service was friendly, helpful and charming.

Well fed and relaxed we sat back to enjoy a varied programme of music arranged by the maestro himself, Adrian Boynton. He accompanied the three excellent soloists, Peter Booth, John Ravenhill and Elizabeth Weaver whose lovely voice soared with apparently effortless ease to fill the old refectory. Pearl White gave a marvellous recitation of one of Joyce Grenfell's pieces of a teacher with a school-room of small children. The Dover Concert Band, conducted by Adrian Boynton, provided a whole variety of lively music with enthusiasm. The evening ended with carol singing for all led by Delys Berry. The communal singing was excellent . . . no inhibited English squeaking from Doverians. The men were particularly good in their part of Good King Wenceslas.

Mr Ind gave a well-timed vote of thanks to Jack Woolford for his able chairmanship of the evening and this rounded off the event very warmly.

Perhaps most special of all is that Dover people are so friendly and easy to be with and each year one meets new people.

GRACE JACKSON