Society Society

Newsletter

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THE DOVER SOCIETY

FOUNDED in 1988

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COMING EVENTS ON INSIDE BACK COVER

Front Cover: Drawing of Orchids by Philomena Kennedy

Inside front cover: Officers of the Society
Inside back cover: Programme for 1991

EDITORIAL

Greetings for 1991 to all our members and other readers.

Since the publication of our last Newsletter we have enjoyed several well-supported and successful events: WINE & WATERWORKS, the presentation of our AWARDS and the MEMBERS' MEETING, at which we report on current projects and concerns and hear members' views. The CHRISTMAS FEAST attracted the maximum number and was, again, a great success.

The TREE PLANTING in Lousybery Wood, which brought together members, other Temple Ewell residents and local school children, co-ordinated by John Owen, is an achievement of which we are proud.

Our case against further visual encroachment on the WESTERN HEIGHTS skyline by the Home Office, in building the new Young Offenders' Accommodation Block, is being seriously considered by the Ombudsman. Dover District Council retrospectively criticized the building materials used.

We hope that members will find it helpful to see some of the details of the new A20 IN DOVER. There are various views on the transport of NUCLEAR Waste through the Port. Letters in this and the previous Newsletter should help to

The disposal of SEWAGE is of vital current concern, not only because of the health hazards resulting at present from its discharge into the sea (with consequent damage to marine life and fouling of local beaches) but also because of its unfortunate effect on tourism. E.C. regulations demand improvement. Decisions will be made SOON. PLEASE try to attend our 'SAVE OUR SEWAGE!' meeting on 4th February. Do you favour landfill, incineration, composting, full treatment and discharge to the sea—or just a longer pipe? Do come and hear the experts, give your views and ask questions. The problems of drought and the RIVER DOUR and the Riverside Walk will also be aired.

We congratulate the Committee of DOVER TRANSPORT MUSEUM on its collection and on the events it organises. The disused Connaught Water Pumping Station it currently occupies has a splendid building, which should be protected, but it is not entirely suitable and the lease is soon to expire. We strongly support their search for another site which we hope will be in Dover and, preferably, near another tourist attraction. We know that D.D.C. is supportive and we hope the Museum will be incorporated in the Local Plan.

We are delighted that, again, at our invitation PRIMAVERA will enrich the cultural life at Dover with the concert in April.

Although, as a Civic Society, it is part of our function to criticize the local Council when we consider it necessary, we continue to maintain friendly relations and to receive useful information.

The Committee has protested against the proposed imposition of entry charges to the MUSEUM and hopes that the matter will be reconsidered in due course by D.D.C. It does, however, seem likely that there will be concessions for local people.

The Castle Street Society is to be congratulated on organising the painting of the Christmas mural, by students of the Kent Institute of Art and Design at Canterbury, on the dreary former B & Q building. It is a pleasing improvement to the street scene.

We recognise that not all members have time or inclination for major involvement in our activities (though, of course, we greatly welcome it) but we hope that everyone can take some part, however small. Please introduce more people to the Society by showing the Newsletter to them or inviting them to an event. Do apply for 'Wine and Wisdom' soon, if you wish to come, as places are limited.



AWARDS 1990 SUMMARY

The Dover Society's Awards were presented to:

A. R. ADAMS & SONS, (PRINTERS) LTD. of Dour Street, Dover for the RENOVATION OF THEIR NEW PREMISES with sensitive awareness of their surroundings.

DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL for the HISTORIC DOVER TOWN TRAIL display boards.

KINGSLEYSHIPPING LTD., Customs Clearance Agents, Dolphin Passage, Dover for the RESTORATION OF THE OLD BREWERY¹ as their premises.

A Letter of Commendation was sent to:

MR A. C. Cawsey for the restorations and renovations he is making to the OLD FLOUR MILL, 113 LONDON ROAD, DOVER (formerly known as Mannering's Mill) and for the care of his stretch of the River Dour.

The selection Committee commented with approval on the re-painting and/or restoration of several upper façades on the south-west side of Biggin Street, between Worthington Street and New Street, and the upper façade of 24 Cannon Street — above the Abbey National Building Society — and the attractive colour-scheme of the premises of A. A. Traylor & Co, Builders, in Russell Street.

In addition to the above the following were nominated and also considered:

The premises of Etam, 38 Biggin Street, Dover.

Temple Ewell Nursing Home, Wellington Road, Temple Ewell, Dover.

The Adams premises



In the early 1950's the building now known as The Old Brewery' was Alfred Leney & Co'stied house maintenance department and earlier still it was a fodder store. The site of the Phoenix Brewery is now occupied by the multistorey car park. ED



The Historic Dover Town Hall Trail Boards

AWARDS AND REMINISCENCES

The Dover Society Awards Meeting.

Monday, 15th October, 1990

The meeting was opened by our Chairman, Jack Woolford, who introduced Sir Clifford and Lady Mary Jarrett to the audience,

Leo Wright gave a short talk, summarised below, about the subjects put forward for awards. The MFI Building was shown as an example of what we do not want.

Councillor Whisker thanked the Dover Society on behalf of the Council and especially praised the officers directly responsible for the research into and production of the panels. She went on to say that much of Dover's Heritage remains hidden and when come upon by accident there was no explanation. Thus the easy-to-follow trail around the Town for Dovorians and visitors alike. The working party was set up two years ago made up of members of the Museum, Planning and Tourist Departments. Schemes in other towns were studied but found wanting and a special high quality design was devised to suit Dover... stove enamelled cast aluminium plate... vandal resistant; this was manufactured in Gillingham. The plastic insert panel was designed in-house and produced by a Dover signmaker. The text was written by Museum staff and checked by local historians Ivan Green and Joe Harman, and by members of the Committee of The Dover Society.

The panels went into production in March 1989 and were erected and launched in April this year. The second trail scheme was for the Western Heights and similar projects are under way for Deal and Sandwich; later the villages will be featured. Cllr. Whisker ended by thanking the Society on behalf of the Council.

Mr Paul Moxon received an award for the refurbishment of the 'Old Brewery' in Dolphin Lane by Kingsley Shipping. It was designed to be in keeping with historic Dover and instead of a shop-front only noticed in passing, there is an inn-sign, "The Old Brewery", visible from each end of the street, so realistic that people have called in for a pint. I must confess that I thought I had discovered a new pub within walking distance...

Mr Moxon's enthusiasm burst through as he explained the restoration at breakneck speed with not a word of reference.

The order in which these awards were presented was of no consequence as they were all of equal merit so, last but not least, came Mr A. F. (Budge) Adams to give a talk on the printing firm started by his father.

Mr Adams admitted to being a trifle embarrassed at receiving an Award from a society of which he was a Vice-President but he went on to give an entertaining discourse. He said "I was brought up to accept that I would have responsibilities for the people who worked for us and their dependents, and to the community in which I would live and I am happy to say that my son also accepts these principles".

The business was started in 1888 in Priory Street but in 1903 when in Ladywell it was subject to a compulsory purchase order for the purpose of road widening. £30 did not seem a fair offer and after it had been contested the offer was upped to £50. Budge still has the solicitor's bill, for £12!!

A. R. Adams (1) entered on a 21 year lease of 37 Castle Street and later bought it. He died in 1928 when Budge was eighteen and with little experience: the result for the business was almost disastrous. Then came the Second World War, with, for Budge, six years service in the R.A.F. and again the firm barely survived. 37 Castle Street remained in use until 1979 when there was a move into the firm's store in Russell Street, next to the Castle Inn. Five years later a final move (so it was thought) was to Southern Television's studio, also in Russell Street. But then the Dover District Council wanted to build a multi-storied car park: this required the demolition of the firm's premises and the Council offered as a replacement a site in Dour Street. This building had possibilities and 'Adams and Son' - the 'son" being A.R.A.(2) - saw Dour Street as the home of a 'distinct community' that took pride in itself but was unhappy about the empty offices now fast becoming derelict. Father and son talked interminably and drew sketches on whatever came to hand. They agreed to follow the Street's basic character and at the same time turn the building into a suitable place to house a "viable, prestigious, financial proposition". Budge gave credi to the architect, the builder and all the sub-contractors and finally to his son for the great part he played in the plan's development, and who is, fortunately, over eighteen.

After refreshments it was time for the guest speaker, Sir Clifford Jarrett and his reminiscences, 'A Dovorian remembers'.

Firstly he thanked Mrs Berry for being hostess to him and Lady Mary and said how proud he was to be a Vice-President of The Dover Society. "Dover is backward in putting itself forward". He thought that the community should be more conscious of its merits.

Sir Clifford's father had a photographer's shop next door to what is now Charlton Centre. His father was called up in 1917 and his mother carried on the business until a bomb fell in the garden and the house was rendered unsafe. The 'refugees' went to Canterbury and the family had to split up; the young Clifford went to his grandparents at the 'Jolly Sailor; this he enjoyed. Alas, he could not go to school as his mother did not pay rates to Canterbury. He did attend school, eventually, where the headmaster stomped around always carrying a cane; this does not seem to have harmed Sir Clifford. He did not mention whether it was used on him.

When the war ended, father Jarrett returned to photography and the shop was repaired. The school attended was St. Mary's, Queen Street. This was a good school; the headmaster was Mr John Wicks and Mr "Archie" Welden, in charge of Form 6, was an exemplary teacher. The next school was the Dover County School for Boys in Frith Road, (The building now houses, horror of horrors girls). At the County School the masters mentioned by name were 'Spud' Slater, a born teacher of English and History, Tom Watt who taught French with an especial interest in French Literature; thirdly, there was the Headmaster, Mr Freddie Whitehouse, who taught Scripture with dramatic interpretations. Sir Clifford won a State Scholarship to Cambridge in 1928 and was there until 1932. With him were eight Old Pharosians. Freddie Whitehouse was invited to dinner at Cambridge by his expupils and when he died, among his effects was found the signed menu.

A Home Office post was the first employment for the triple first graduate; his task was examining petitions from H.M. Prisons. Fortunately he was shortly transferred to the 51 Admiralty; much more congenia;. The story of Winston's lampshade caused much laughter. It seems that Mr Churchill had a special lampshade when he was First Lord 1911-13; it was hideous to all but him and when he returned to the Admiralty in 1939 he asked for it back and, what is more, got it. Mr Churchill became Prime Minister and 'that monstrosity' was unceremoniously thrown out. After the war, "Where's my lampshade", said Mr Churchill. With great presence of mind came the reply, "Remember that bomb". "Just as I would have wished-lost by enemy action".

In 1964 Sir Clifford went to the DHSS, a good department but dull and he retired. He had ten years of part-time employment including tobacco research, the Maritime Museum and lastly Chairman of Dover Harbour Board. The Chunnel Cloud loomed but Harold Wilson said "NO" and the danger receded, only to be resurrected in the eighties but without public money being made available.

There were questions from the floor "Why did the Admiralty remain in Bath after the war?" "Because they liked it".

Then a question on the possibility of selling off Dover Harbour Board not a popular move.

lack Woolford thanked Sir Clifford for his address and presented Lady Mary with a bouquet.

During the interval there had been a collection for the Louseyberry Wood tree planting and £67 was collected.

It had been a highly successful evening.

SYBIL STANDING

THE AWARDS - 1990

The awards made annually by the Dover Society are based on the first two objectives of the Society:

- to promote high standards of planning and architecture
- to interest the public in . . . the architecture of the area.

In traditionally English fashion, the judging is carried out by a lay jury, greatly helped in our case by the trained eye and taste of Philomena Kennedy.

We visit and judge all recent developments which have been nominated by members or members of the public. We also looked at what is not welcome; for example the M.F.I. building aggressively beside the pleasant remaining houses of St. James's Street.

The first decision which faced us this year concerned the several projects of the Dover District Council. In one way we were spoilt for choice but, also, to compare the achievements and resources of the Council with those of private individuals is not to compare like with like. We therefore admired the renewal of the Town Hall, the improvements in Pencester Gardens, the face-lift in Castle Street (while retaining doubts about the angled pavements, the number of bollards and the nostalgic lampposts) but decided to make an award to the HISTORIC TOWN TRAIL NOTICE BOARDS, because these are a visible link with the Council's decision to foster tourism, as well as being agreeable in themselves and appreciated by visitors.

Another award was made to the OLD BREWERY in Dolphin Lane, the restoration of an attractive stone building, so much richer than what might have replaced it. Our only reservation concerned the olde-world bottle glass windows.

The third award — they are not in any order — was made to ADAMS THE PRINTERS' complete refurbishment of the old Townsend building in Dour Street. With some doubts about the shade of green, we praised the choice of colours whereby the building sympathises with the rows of small houses. We praised the ingenious breaking up of the facade with gables and verandah (with doubts about some windows at the back), the superb wrought-iron gates by the local firm of Danson, and the dedication of the river frontage to a future riverside walk.

Of other nominated sites: Alan Traylor had certainly done well in persuading his neighbours to join in a colour-scheme which produces a harmonious street group.

Alan Cawsey deserves great praise for his progress in restoring Mannering's Mill, and the reach of the River Dour, from the Mill to the 'Old Endeavour', is a model of ecological conservation. Of shops: we welcomed the refurbishment of the upper storeys of various premises on both sides of the pedestrian precinct. At ETAM, despite the bogus gables, the excessively high fascia and the erratically divided frontage, we recognised that it was an improvement on what went before—the old Tesco building.

The New NURSING HOME AT TEMPLE EWELL had also been nominated. We were bound to praise the very ingenious use of an almost impossibly difficult site. The architect had also to contend with adding extensions to a Victorian villa. The pastiche Victorian extension with its patio goes quite well. The brick extension is happily low-rise and inoffensive. The linking courtyard is so varied in texture as to be restless.

In conclusion, we thought that, in the nature of things, there were not and cannot be any marvels of architecture but there is enough innovation and refurbishment going on to justify optimism for the future.



Lousyberry Wood, Temple Ewell

A goodly number of members responded to the invitation in the last Newsletter to help with the Society's project of planting trees in Lousyberry Wood, .

We were joined by local residents of Temple Ewell and school-children from the village school. Encouraged by their head teacher, the children are currently doing a cross-curricula project on the subject of trees.

Largely we enjoyed good weather, completed the clearance of undergrowth and started the planting of beech, maple and cherry during National Tree Week at the end of November.

We hope to complete before any really cold weather arrives!

JOHN OWEN

Chairman of Projects Committee

Since this report was written this project has been splendidly completed with the planting of 200 trees. ED

Lousyberry Wood

Yes, we have re-planting Lousyberry Wood, but what is this name 'Lousyberry'?

No one seems to have an explanation of its origin. But, if you walk the Pilgrims' Way above Chilham, you climb a long low hill known as Julyberry Down or Juliberrie's Grave. This is said to be the gave of one Laberius, a Roman officer in Julius Caesar's army which, around 55 BC fought with the British on this spot. The name is said to be a combination of Julius and Laberius corrupted by the Britons over the years to Julyberry. Perhaps he had a brother Lucius Laberius who died in some skirmish on this hill above the River Dour and giving us, over the years, the name Lousyberry. There are tumuli in the wood, which we were careful not to disturb.

Perhaps readers can suggest a better derivation?

MARJORY WRIGHT

John Owen





Limestone head of a Romano-British man.

LOUSYBERRY LOOT

It is indeed appropriate that the first of an intriguing series of finds, recently made in Lousyberry Wood, was made on the day known to the Romans as KALENDS APRILIS. Space allows only a portion of the cache to be illustrated here.

It is obvious that some earlier excavator, surely a treasure-hunter, hid his loot and, inexplicably, never returned to claim it.

For reasons of security the PRESENT whereabouts of these fascinating objects will only be divulged, in the strictest confidence, to readers who are prepared to reveal to the Editor the fruits of their own research in this area.

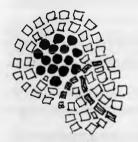
Perhaps investigations into your family history have turned up a link with Julius or Lucius? Could there be a connection with Decimus Laberius. the Roman knight famous for his talented writing of mimes? Or do you, in spite of the evidence, adhere to the notion that Julius/Jullieberrie was interred a thousand years before Cæsar set foot in Kent? Could you throw any light on the finds? Can you identify the mysterious treasure seeker?

PHILOMENA KENNEDY





Sculpture of a centurion which is vemarkably complete.



Small portion of mosaic showing blackberry. It is said that, in parts of Kent, this fruit is known as a julieberry!

Drawings by Marjorie Radford and Philomena Kennedy



a medallion



Small triere of an inscription

Small piece of an inscription on marble

Membership News

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 Archtiecture 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.

QUIZ QUESTIONS REQUIRED

 $The REASON for the following \ request WILL BE \ REVEALED in due course.$

We should be grateful if *every reader* could provide us with *at least one* DIFFICULT BUT CONCISE AND UNAMBIGUOUS QUESTION on some aspect of the area covered by the Dover Society (see final page) together with the BRIEF, ACCURATE ANSWER to it. The question may be accompanied by a **clear** picture, not smaller than 6" x 4", if you wish.

The question(s) may be on any suitable topic, e.g. history, geography, archaeology, references in literature, local government, natural history, transport by land, sea or air, architecture, the visual arts, population, etc.

It is essential that questions and answers can be fairly easily checked for accuracy, so please supply all necessary details to enable this to be done.

If the information is in a book please give title, author, page number and library where it can be consulted and if possible, a photocopy of the reference.

PLEASE DO NOT DISCLOSE YOUR QUESTION(S) AND ANSWERS(S) TO OTHER PEOPLE.

The LOOSE form enclosed within this issue is for one question and its details. For each further question please copy the form on to a separate sheet of paper of the same size. alternatively further copies may be collected from the Adams office in Dour Street - please ask for "Quiz Question Sheet".

Send your question(s) to A. F. Adams, 24 Castle Avenue, Dover, to arrive not later than 15th March 1991.

PHILOMENA KENNEDY

THE WYE CONFERENCE

Eighteenth Annual Conference of Amenity Societies & Local Authorities

The theme of this year's conference which was held at Withersdane Hall, Wye College, on the 15th and 16th September 1990 was 'ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT - PARTNERSHIP OR CONFLICT.'

The conference was attended by 45 delegates whose interests and affiliations covered a wide range of organisations throughout Kent.

Under the able control of our own Chairman, Jack Woolford, the conference commenced on a prestigious note with a keynote speech given by K.C.C. Chairman Tony Hart who emphasised the importance of promoting joint partnerships between county and local authorities, commercial undertakings, statutory bodies and local amenity societies.

The same theme but with a political bias was eloquently continued by Roger Moat, M.P. for Faversham, who described central government's rôle in dealing with many of the transportational and environmental planning issues confronting our county.

TOWN PLANNING.

The final session of the first morning was addressed by Martin Bacon, Director of Technical Services, Canterbury City Council, who described the many and complex problems confronting a city that has enjoyed almost too much success for the benefit of the environmental well-being. Here was a young man fired with enthusiasm and obviously deriving immense job satisfaction in getting to grips with some highly challenging problems and it was good to think that such an able enthusiast was so closely involved in such matters. As we were later to discover on our afternoon site visit, his interests didn't stop at Canterbury City walls when we were given a comprehensive tour of the seaside towns of Herne Bay and Whitstable to see the improvements that these two somewhat run-down Victorian seaside towns have recently experienced. It was particularly interesting to visit the offices of the Whitstable Trust to see just how much local enthusiasm and self help can achieve in improving such towns.

ARCHAEOLOGY.

Upon our return we had a fascinating insight into the County's rich archaeological heritage given by Dr. John Williams, the County Archaeological Officer. He described the careful recording of the thousands of sites around the county now being stored by computer in the county's central archives so that all future planning applications can be rapidly processed in order to check that there are no conflicts of interests in archaeological terms.

58 ARCHITECTURE.

The final evening session was given by an eminent architect, Richard MacCormac, M.A., R.I.B.A., who launched into a splendidly aggressive attack on those such as the Prince of Wales who advocate a slavish copying of the designs of earlier times. Mr MacCormac has been responsible for the design of some extremely prestigious halls of residence at Cambridge University and certainly demonstrated with his superb slide collection that old and new can be beautifully harmonised with careful attention to detailing and form.

(Jack Woolford's fuller report on this lecture appears at the end of this article.)

Local interests in the form of the 'White Cliffs Countryside Project' were well demonstrated by Kirk Alexander at the start of the second day and we were all reminded of the wealth of flora and fauna that exists on the cliffs and seashore around Dover. Again, it was most encouraging to see a young man who was so obviously enthusiastic about his project and how, as a consequence, other groups of young people (and older) were giving their free time to help in conservation matters.

This particular theme was repeated when we heard details of the Medway Trust from their Project Manager, Brian Smith. He described the many voluntary activities of youngsters in developing improved riverside walks (a theme that is near and dear to our own hearts).

Following this we had the benefit of a long and at times witty address from the President of the Federation of Amenity Societies, Roger de-Gray, who appeared to lead the sort of artistic life that many of us would aspire to but few could afford.

WATER SUPPLY

The final speaker was Peter Herbertson of the National Rivers Authority who gave a most interesting and authoritative account of the problems facing the water supply industry in Kent and the means of maintaining adequate future supplies. It was interesting to note that in the final speaker's panel session almost all of the questions related to the water industry and demonstrated an increasing concern that many of us have for the quality of our drinking water, adequacy of supplies and the need for improvement of waste water management.

All in all, a most interesting and stimulating conference. Next year's theme will, I suspect, be transportational and water issues.

7000-YEAR-OLD LINK RENEWED.

The Continent is no longer cut off from Kent! With the meeting of Graham Fagg and Phillipe Cozette in the Channel Tunnel in December it became again, theoretically, possible to walk between England and France and the Continent's isolation was finally broken!

ARCHITECTURAL PLANNING AND DESIGN

Richard MacCormac's Address to the Wye Conference.

In introducing Richard MacCormac, Executive Committee member Ann Voelcker, herself an architect, noted his original and controversial designs for Spitalfields and for Tonbridge School and compared them more than favourably with the "replica" buildings we had seen in Canterbury. She deplored British architectural illiteracy and said that great labour was needed to overcome the blind timidity of respect for tradition only. Revitalisation did not mean pantiles on a supermarket roof!

Mr MacCormac's address was splendidly illustrated by simultaneous side-by-side slides. He commented that Wren's St Paul's was unpopular at the time it was built, and denounced as a barbarous and unscholarly new building, as were the works of Hawksmoor, and the Sydney Opera House would probably not get planning permission now. He praised the "admirable boldness" of the beautiful Mitterand Glass Pyramid at the Louvre. The Liverpool Albert Dock, so admired today, was attacked at the time of its construction for its ugliness and shamefully cheap construction. Similarly, the four façades of London's Bedford Square, which we regard as the epitomy of Georgian quality, can be seen as stripped down versions of the elevations of Woburn, and much Georgian architecture was originally derided for its repetitiveness and lack of character, he said.

Modern imitative buildings were the work of unpractised architects and their craft delicacy was undeveloped. They confused association with intrinsic worth. John Ruskin, in the 19th century, helped create the mania for Gothic, which he came to regret as it appeared even in the designs of pubs and railway stations. This attitude to architecture was particularly English and resulted in buildings which were not about themselves, but something else - past styles or historic surroundings. Sainsburys at Canterbury was perhaps too much about itself and its technology, but remained an intrinsically fine building, probably more valuable architecturally than any pastiche supermarket. Mr MacCormac described some of his own buildings, such as that at Worcester College, Oxford, which have made historic references without imitating past style.

Mr MacCormac praised the Estonian-American architect, Kahn, for his Center for British Art and Studies at Yale, and his library for St Phillip's Academy at the University of Exeter, New Hampshire, as buildings of spiritual power which would never obtain a planning consent in Britain today. He thought that Lasdun's National Theatre was great but flawed by its external use of concrete. Architects concerned about the past should seek its meanings and find new forms to express them. He agreed with a member of the audience that the Prince of Wales, who liked only customary beauty, might inadvertently be promoting provincialism.

⁶⁰ Downland Orchids in the Dover Area

BY PAT PENNINGTON

In the last edition of the Newsletter I dealt with woodland orchids to be found locally; in this copy I will mention some of the downland types which may be numerically more numerous but are rarely noticed by most walkers.

Frog Orchids (Coeloglossum) for example, grow on Gorse Hill behind the Dover Athletic Football ground. Lest you think I am encouraging plant hunters in revealing the exact spot I defy any but the most persistent to discover these squat three-inch high green curiosities buried among the matted grass. Despite being directed to the site, it took two of us forty minutes careful searching before we found them and when I returned next day with a camera I was convinced someone has picked them all. Actually they were still there in their dozens but it took nearly an hour before we rediscovered them. I wonder if their virtual invisibility means they are far more widespread than is commonly believed?

Even smaller and more significant are the minute yellow-green Musk Orchids (*Herminiun monorchis*) which I only tracked down at Park Gate Down in the Elham Valley because someone had considerately erected a protective covering of twigs over them. If you lie flat on the ground and sniff very hard you might be able to discern their characteristic honey scent.

The more famous resident of Park Gate Down is the Monkey Orchid (*Orchis simia*), a beautiful silvery pink with red extremities at the end of each monkey-like flower. Yet although now naturalized, it was deliberately planted here some time ago by the Kent Trust for Nature Conservation so in a sense is not really native. Yet it is common in the Pas de Calais, a striking example of how our flora was impoverished when Britain was separated from the rest of Europe by rising seas at the end of the Ice Age.

Another common continental orchid is the Late Spider (*Ophrys fuciflora*) but the only sites known to me locally are on Wye Downs, two plants at Holywell, Folkestone, and a few more on the chalk escarpment nearby. How the nearby Channel Tunnel workings will affect this flower's fragile hold on East Kent I do not know but expect the worst.

The Bee Orchid (Ophrys apifera) is happily more common. It looks very similar to the Late Spider but its tiny greenish "beard" points backwards to the stem whereas the yellow jutting point on the Late Spider Orchid points forward. They can be found on Temple Down, Temple Ewell, the Sandwich Golf courses, Coombe Valley and in fields on either side of Warren Lane, Lydden, if grazing animals permit. Yet their flowering,

like so many orchids is highly erratic; one year there may be hardly any and the next 61 year there might be hundreds,

Whereas Bee Orchids have pink sepals, the well-known Early Spider Orchids (Ophrys sphegodes) have green sepals. They are probably the rarest orchids to be found within the town boundary since the are quite common on the terraces above the Eastern Docks and on the cliffs near Aycliffe where they bravely survive the salt-laden blasts, dwarfed but sturdy. They used to be common on Old Park Hill if one climbed up from London Road, River, but I have not been in recent years and it looks as though the undergrowth is now too high since they must have short turf like most downland orchids. There is a large garden on Kingsdown Leas where literally hundreds flower despite regular mowing and they are also found on the neighbouring golf courses and on Lydden Nature Reserve.

The same is true for an amazingly abundant orchid which hardly anyone notices, the Autumn Ladies Tresses (Spiranthes spiralis). This blooms in September and at first glance resembles short spikes of flowering grass. Its beauty is best appreciated by lying on the ground with a magnifying glass so be prepared for suspicious glances from passers by. It is common on Temple Down and the Nature Reserve at Lydden. In fact it can appear almost overnight on uncut lawns when conditions are right.

The last orchid is the most well-known downland orchid—the Common Spotted Orchid (Dactylorhiza fuchsii) found on the Western Heights, the area surrounding the Castle, Langdon Cliffs and numerous woodland margins along Alkham Valley (one of the best orchid sites around Dover). Often, it will grow quite happily in gardens where concern for wild life takes precedence over weedkillers and hoeing. In the past I have seen children picking great bunches of the pink/mauve flowers in June but perhaps education as to the general rarity of these beautiful plants has reduced these depredations. There certainly seems to be a greater awareness of the astonishing variety of the wild life in our local area.

Several of the orchids mentioned are illustrated on the front cover

Deadline

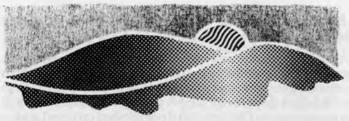
for CONTRIBUTIONS

The Editor welcomes contributions suitable for the Newsletter. Illustrations to articles and other appropriate visual materials, are particularly appreciated.

The deadline for Newsletter No. 10 is Monday, 1st April. Please note that contributors should state the number of words in any article submitted.

Publication in the Newsletter does not necessarily imply the Society's agreement with the views expressed.

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WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE



MELANIE WRIGLEY, (Project Officer)

In the January edition of the Dover Society's Newsletter there was an article about the White Cliffs Countryside Project's aims and about our intention to concentrate efforts on Dover's Western heights initially. Here is a brief summary of what has been achieved in the last year, much of the practical being work done by enthusiastic volunteers of all ages,

In January the Outdoor Pursuits' Groups run by Mr Adrian Visscher of Astor School started coming out on to the Western Heights twice a week to do practical conservation work. They learnt about the hand tools they were using, about the theories behind nature conservation tasks and achieved a great deal of valuable work such as scrub clearing, litter clearing and step building. Volunteers have installed more than 150 steps on the steep slopes to enable people of all ages to explore the Western Heights.

Once the fence line had been cleared of scrub and rubbish a local fencing contractor put up 1.5km of new fencing. This enabled the loveable Dexter cattle to start grazing on thirty acres of ancient chalk grassland around the Drop Redoubt.

The Dexter is a rare breed, descended from wild Irish mountain cattle. It is the smallest British breed of cattle, which, because of its small size and short legs, is able to graze the steep slopes of the Western Heights with ease and without damaging the turf. They also thrive on poor quality grazing.

The cattle have made an impressive difference to the area, grazing the knee-length grass back to ground level. The cattle will be taken off over winter, spring and early summer to allow the smaller, delicate flowers to cattle will be reintroduced around late July 1991 so that they can graze on the coarse grasses again,

otherwise, the grasses will eventually smother the flowers.

Dover Society members helped the White Cliffs Project carry out an orchid survey on the area to be grazed. We also had volunteer help from many other sources such as a regular group of pupils from Dover College who help to

manage Cowgate Cemetery; boys from the Dover Youth Custody Centre; Community 63 Service; individual members of the Public (volunteers and Voluntary Wardens); Duke of York's Royal Military School pupils; Individuals from Dover Grammar School for Girls and students from Walmer Social Centre also helped to manage Cowgate Cemetery as a place for wildlife and quiet remembrance. We have also received help from participants in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme..

A series of three circular walks is being waymarked. The short walk has been completed. In particular, access has been greatly improved and matching information panels installed at the entrances to introduce visitors to the history and wildlife of the Western Heights and to encourage them to explore along the circular walks. Dover Museum staff have designed and installed a series of information panels to create a historical trail.

We need more volunteers to help with practical work, and others to act as Voluntary Wardens to keep an eye on the Western Heights and to let us know if there is any flytipping, vandalism or dog worrying of cattle We hope to arrange a wider range of walks next year. We would be very pleased to hear from anyone who feels they can offer to help us in any way. Even half an hour per month would be useful. Please contact us at the office at 6 Cambridge Terrace, Dover or call us on telephone number Dover 241806.

> If you are willing to help the White Cliffs Countryside Project please use the loose slip inserted in this issue of The Newsletter

DOVER MUSEUM

The new Museum opens in the Market Square (its original home before it was bombed) on 11th March 1991.

Beneath an arcade formed by the restored façade of the old Market Hall will be an entrance to a Tourist Information Centre. Behind this on the ground floor will be displays on the archaeology and geology of Dover, including the Buckland finds.

The floor above will be used for temporary exhibitions. The first, "Dover and its People", is a photographic display and doubtless you will recognise some of the subjects. In May a selection of the Museum's collection of pictures will be shown and later, an exhibition of and about the work of Noel Coward.

The main permanent exhibition on the top floor will cover the history of Dover from 1066 to the Second World War.

The amount of exhibition space will be three times that of the present Museum in Ladywell but there will be no storage space in the new building and staff office space is limited. Over the arcade there will be a Library 60 ft x 8 ft.

Museum staff will be available to answer visitors' questions about Dover and Between the Museum and the Heritage Centre will be a shop and a restaurant.

(ED. The Museum in Ladywell is now closed to visitors in preparation for the move to the Market Square but I believe that if necessary staff may be consulted by appointment.) 64



"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.

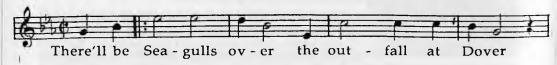
Southern Water had sent two speakers: Mr Harnett, a scientist, and Mr Shay, an engineer. They both spoke throughout with professional restraint and explained the options, pressures and restrictions within which they worked. They stressed that the preferred option for Deal would not be decided before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



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 obnthe 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 landbased 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

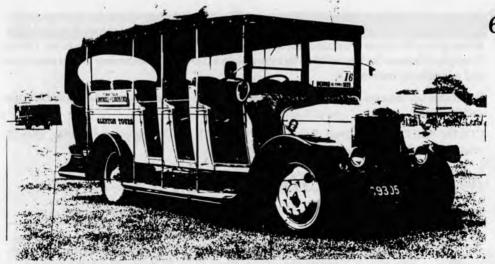
The Dover Transport Museum Society was formed in February 1990 to promote interest in, and the preservation of, vehicles and items of transport from the past.

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.

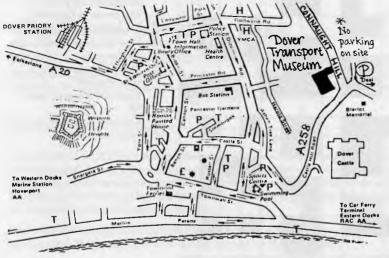


A typical seaside run-about behicle. Dennis GL-Type toast Rack, 1929

A report from an education officer, visiting the site, states: "The collection is a very valuable resource for the history, science and technology National Curriculum, . . . and can provide an important teaching resource for **teachers** and students."

Sadly, from December 1991, this unique collection is under threat. The Society is being forced to find alternative accommodation for the museum. A number of sites have been suggested and considered, all of which have advantages and disadvantages. Major considerations are cost and the wish to keep the museum in the Dover area. It will not be easy to find a suitable equivalent home for the collection.

As the museum and its staff exists by voluntary help only, the Society is appealing to all those within the district, who think they may be able to help in any way, to come forward. To this end



DOVER TRANSPORT MUSEUM

A Company Limited by Guarantee, No. 1690404 Registered Charity No. 289484. Affiliate Member of the Transport Trust. Member of the Association of Independent Museums. Member, Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies 68 a special open day was held on 9th December 1990. Some of our members were able to attend. At this event the Museum Society aimed to show their achievements to date and outline their future plans. We hope a suitable site will be found by December 1991 and that the Dover Transport Museum Society will find its future place in Dover as a continuing tourist attraction and educational resource.

For further information and details of forthcoming events please contact the Museum Director and Secretary:

COLIN SMITH, 33 Alfred Road, DOVER CT16 2AD Telephone (0304) 204612 who will also be very pleased to receive offers of help.

MERRIL'S CROSSWORD

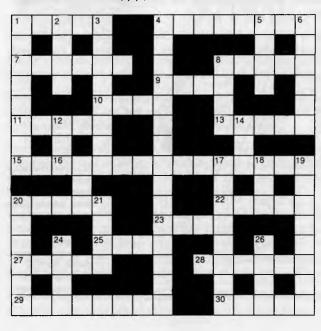
CLUES - ACROSS

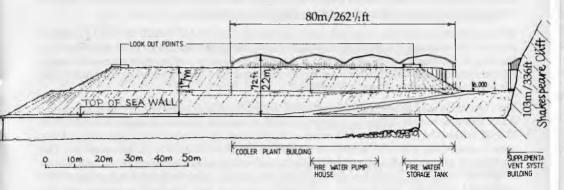
- Found at the Castle or north from a Dover street (5)
- 2. 1815 battle (8)
- 7. Comedy of Shakespeare (6)
- 8. Splendid shaft (5)
- 10. Half (prefix) (4)
- 11. Opposite of odds (5)
- The Romans had such a base in Dover (5)
- 15. The most historic walls in Dover found here (3,7,5)

- 20. Princely pier (5)
- 22. Might take French this to flee to Calais (5)
- Neighbouring fishing town
 (4)
- 25. Red (Spanish) (4)
- 27. Many a white one here (5)
- 28. Concealed (6)
- 29. They breed in hundreds in 27s (8)
- 30. Escape (5)

DOWN

- 1. Moon-shaped, with 4 cross stands on Dover seafront (8)
- 2. A rule or authoritative standard (4)
- 3. In the main N.E. of Dover (5,3)
- 4. Hero of 4 across lands in a Dover mooring (10,5)
- 5. Twists the truth (4)
- 6. Alternative to 23 across is a painful experience (6)
- 8. 8 across loses old pence for Spanish great (4)
- 12. First lady? (3)
- 14. Past time gives a start (3)
- 16. Pastry crust on this sanctimonious point (3)
- 17. Hot corner of Dover (8)
- 18. Transatlantic neighbours (3)
- 19. Glee dances on broken cane for grace (8)
- 20. Many of these on the Goodwins (6)
- 21. Board for riding or wave
- 24. Currency alternative to 5 (4)
- 26. Good notion (4)





The Cooling Plant

It's as bad as we feared! Detailed plans have now been submitted to the local Council for the Channel Tunnel Cooling Plant to be built on the newly constructed platform below Shakespeare Cliff. The buildings, of which there are a number, will be vast (the largest is $101.75 \, \text{m} \times 34 \, \text{m} \times 8.5 \, \text{m}$ and its impact can be imagined. We have raised our voice above the mutterings and wait to hear Eurotunnel's response.

The Russell Street Car Park

WE learn with regret that the multi-storey car park planned for Russell Street will not be completed in time for the eagerly-awaited opening of the White Cliffs Experience. We hope that the delay will allow time to ensure that a well-designed, attractive car park will result.

In addition to studying the local plan (see below) we have also commented on the Economic Development Strategy. Stressing the need for an Economic Development Officer, to concentrate interest in investment in the district, we have welcomed the initiative in targeting potential relocators. As has been said publicly, we welcome the proposals of TAG/McClaren and see this as an example of confidence in the area.

If you want development to mean 'positive improvement' then write a letter! Whether it is to the Council, the local press or to the Society, your views matter.

70 The Local Plan:

DOVER and WESTERN PARISHES

A policy document is only as effective as the will to implement it. This Local Plan is the last before the opening of the Channel Tunnel and the implementation of the Single European Market. Employers' reactions to these major events are vitally important to ensure that the District is ready to meet the forthcoming changes and challenges.

We are about to submit our response and comments on the DRAFT WRITTEN STATEMENT and will be stressing the need for decisions to be stringently enforced to be effective. The Society, in November 1988, submitted a detailed document outlining its views on many relevant topics and is delighted that some of these suggestions have already been implemented, but, obviously, much still needs to be done.

The District Council has included a number of very exciting and praiseworthy proposals in the document and we are happy to support these. For example, plans to recognise a 'VISITOR ZONE' within the town centre will mean a co-ordinated and concentrated upgrading of this area — something that will be both attractive to visitors and beneficial to townspeople. The importance of good architectural design is stressed in relation to commercial, industrial and residential buildings. There is no demand for fresh land (or greenfield sites) to be released for residential purposes. The provision of quality shopping and the need to ensure that the primary shopping frontages remain dedicated for that purpose is essential. (We note with interest that plans have been submitted for the use of part of the ground floor of the 'Metropole' building in Cannon Street as retail units by its new owners, coupled with the conversion into flats of the upper floors). Open spaces are to be safeguarded. We note the improvement works in progress in Pencester Gardens. Environmental issues such as sewage disposal will be addressed.

Space does not permit a detailed discussion of all the issues but we continue to take a close interest in developments.

ADRIAN GALLEY

Chairman, Planning Committee

DOVER HISTORY SOCIETY

Membership £5. Visitors welcome at £1 per meeting. New programme begins in April. Outings in the summer.

Secretary:

Mrs P. Barratt, 2 Courtland Drive, Kearsney Avenue, Dover CT163BX Tel: 824764

Mr Harold Sneller can also be contacted:

107 Crabble Hill, Dover CT17 0SA Tel: 822807

All meetings at 7.30 at St. Mary's Parish Centre.

1991

5th FebruaryCRYSTAL PALACESMr B. R. Fagg, M.R.S.H.5th MarchARCHAEOLOGY AND THE CHANNEL TUNNELMr R. P. Cross, B.A.

9th April SEVENTEENTH CENTURY DOVER Mr Ivan Green, B.A.

The New A20 in Dover 71

Members who are not already aware of the detailed plans for the A20 may be interested to note the following:

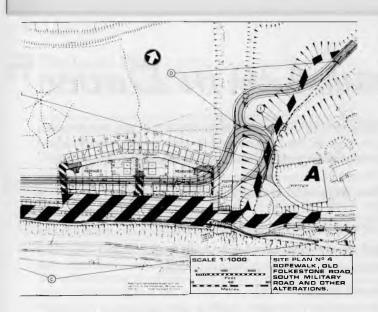
- A wide, straight underpass for pedestrians will connect Bench Street and New Bridge.
- Bench Street and New Bridge will be closed to vehicles to and from Townwall Street.
- There will be 3 new roundabouts: at the junctions of
 - (a) The Ropewalk, South Military Road & Archcliff Road.
 - (b) Limekiln Street and the Viaduct and Snargate Street.
 - (c) Union Street and Snargate Street.
 - (d) Woolcomber Street and Townwall Street (but note that ways of amending this to an enlarged T-junction with traffic-lights are being considered).
- A spiral ramp will provide access from Elizabeth St./Bulwark St. to Channel View Road
- The carriage way will be divided by a central reservation on which will be a safety fence throughout. Pedestrian guard rails will be placed in the vicinity of roundabouts and Pelican Crossings.
- · There will be Pelican Crossings at
 - (a) Snargate Street, opposite York House pub.
 - (b) Seaward end of Woolcomber Street.
 - (c) Townwall Street, outside the Sports Centre.
 - (d) Opposite the Boathouse in Townwall Street.
- Service roads will be provided for Snargate Street and East Cliff.
- Parts of Archcliffe Fort and the Western Heights will be destroyed.
- A new promenade and beach will be provided at East Cliff.
- It will only be possible to turn on to Marine Parade and into Wellesley Road when driving westwards along Townwall Street.

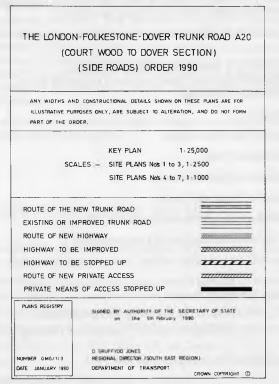
Detailed plans may be seen at D.D.C., Whitfield, at the Planning Reception Desk. Further information may be obtained from the Department of Transport at Dorking 0306 885922.

Work is due to begin in mid 1991 and should be completed by mid 1993.

PHILOMENA KENNEDY

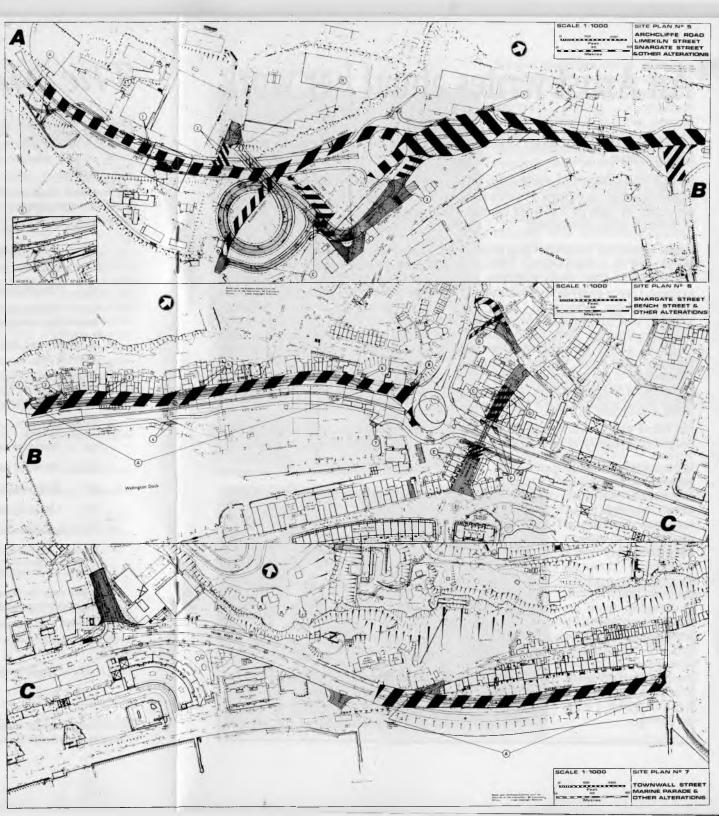
The maps reproduced overleaf, though at a very small scale, give a great deal of information which the membership may well, to say the least, find to be of great interest.





Reproduced with the permission of the Department of Transport South East Constuction Programme Division, to whom all queries should be addressed.

The Society is grateful to the Department for allowing us to print the maps



74 An Artist writes about her work

LESLEY GASKING

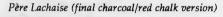
I have painted now for about 15 years and definitely see myself as something of a late developer!!

By that I mean that I feel as though I have just come through the early part of an apprenticeship, as though 15 years have been spent learning how to make marks on paper or canvas followed by the discovery that now I'd like to use that experience to say something.

Jasper Johns, the American pop artist, championed the need to rid oneself of the 'tyranny of the subject matter', preferring instead to paint the same simple subject (the American flag, maps, numbers, etc.) over and over again as a kind of excuse to paint. I feel a great deal of sympathy for this view; over the years, I've taken the pain out of the "what shall I paint" angst, chosen something that captures my interest, and drawn and painted from it many times over. The drawing and paintings emerge, then, as something of a record of one's persona; changing emotions, a kind of introspective self-analysis occasionally bursting out into sheer euphoria over paint, texture and colour (I find the physical nature of a painting paramount to my enjoyment of the painting itself; for example, I never really look at surrealist images because I can never persuade myself to look beyond the rather sickly bland surfaces of the paintings!)

For many years I worked alternately from a drawing of a gravestone in the Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris and a tree stump found in Kearsney Abbey grounds.

My work has normally been in charcoal or in oils on canvas, both very earthy and sensuous materials to use, and the images have been very much worked through during the making process. This freedom to develop from an image spontaneously served as a marvellous foil to the more systemized process of making stained glass windows, the area of work in which I earn my living.







I have always worked from the 75 human figure and, earlier this year, Iembarked on a large, very classical portrait which I entered, unsuccessfully, for the annual Portrait Gallery National Competition. It seemed to mark a turning point in my approach to my work, throwing me first of all into a period of retrospection and an analysis of my paintings so far. It became clear that what was missing was something beyond and below the surface of a painting, that I now needed to add a new dimension of depth, both physical and intellectual.

People who know me will see me as a politically active person, particularly in relation to human rights abuse across the world. Painting about such a powerfully emotive subject from the security of a quiet existence in Dover can never match the intensity a more immediate gut reaction would provoke. I am fortunate enough to be part of a convoy of people travelling to Romania at the end of January to take much-needed

equipment to a number of orphanages. On a humanitarian level, it will be a relief to offer physical help; as a painter, I hope my reaction to years of abuse of human rights will develop into a series of challenging and difficult paintings.

We still need people to help with fund-raising — if you can offer any support at all please contact me on Dover 209280.

ADVERTISING

The Society thanks advertisers for their support. We hope that members (and other readers) will, in turn, support them.

If you would like to advertise in forthcoming Newsletters do please contact Miss Joan Simmonds, at 1 Knight's Way, Dover, tel. 822611.

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.

IOHN 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

MEMBERS' MEETING

On 19th November over 50 members of the Dover Society gathered for the third annual members' meeting, a brief survey of past achievements and suggestions for the future.

Our Chairman, Mr Jack Woolford, welcomed all new members, in particular Mr Bill Breeze, who had been the Treasurer of our predecessor, the New Dover Group; he then shewed us a few of his beautiful slides of new and improved buildings in the town, and we enjoyed again Adams' new printing works in Dour Street, and the Phoenix Brewery revitalised by Kingsley Shipping Ltd.

Following this, we heard reports from Adrian Galley, our Chairman of the Planning Sub-Committee, John Owen, Chairman of the Projects Committee and Leo Wright, who reported on 'Music and Sewage'!

PLANNING.

Adrian emphasised that we must lead local opinion; with the land pressures of the E.E.C. for developments in our town and villages we must be in the forefront with good decisions, and make a strong stand for their implementation, taking care that the statements made are adhered to. His review included:

INDUSTRIAL ZONING.

TOURISM — (visitor zone centred on the Market Square and including Castle Street and King Street).

DESIGN — aiming for the best quality architecture - Leo's being an improve $^-$ ment on B and Q! -

HOUSING — no more on fresh green land, a growth in town in-filling.

SHOPPING — Frontages in main areas should be retail outlets, not Building Societies, etc., open space and recreation areas must be safeguarded, and playground facilities for young children.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS — sewage and waste water disposal.

PROJECTS

John, of the Projects Committee, stated their aim to identify needs, and follow up with action, practical or persuasive. He reviewed past successes: the OPERATION TIDY 90, which had a good press review; the survey of the WESTERN HEIGHTS, which was helpful in the subsequent management plan, and the survey of the RIVER between Castle Street and Ladywell. The committee presses the general question of the River Dour, but efforts are limited in terms of proper river management; however we press on now with the practical actions which are within our abilities, our finances, and our manpower. The committee tries to be self-financing, and thanked members for £67 collected towards tree-planting at the previous meeting. The immediate project is the tree planting at LOUSEYBERRY WOOD, Temple Ewell; steady planting on private land, with the goodwill of the owner. The clearing

78 and planting has been done by our volunteers, who have been backed admirably by the children of Temple Ewell School. It is hoped to complete the planting in the next three weekends before the frost sets in. There have been various setbacks, but the happy band continues with quiet persistence, pursuing meanwhile any grants or sponsorship available. Future ideas included the possibility of using an empty shop window to launch the 1991 initiative.

MUSIC AND SEWAGE

Leo reminded us of the PRIMAVERA Concert and has booked 20th April 1991 for another musical event. We are again discussing financial assistance from Eurotunnel who were put off by adverse local publicity after this year's concert.

He then reviewed the less pleasant problem of SEWAGE DISPOSAL, noting the unpleasant state of Shakespeare Beach. Our Chairman chaired a public meeting in Deal on this important subject, there was one in Folkestone on 3rd December, and we are arranging one here on 4th February, 1991 to put pressure on Southern Water. Councillor Williams told us that it was hoped eventually to have a treatment works locally, meanwhile the sewage disposal pipes may be lengthened. Dover and Folkestone are likely to share a sewage disposal or treatment plant.

Anxiety was expressed about the transport of NUCLEAR WASTE through the port. We were told that the District Council has no power to prevent this, but can vet with the possibility of injury to public health. Later in the evening John Gerrard gave us a spirited account of the meticulous care taken by Dover Harbour Board on this problem, of their liaison with the Fire Brigade and the Police, and the difference between Barrow-in-Furness and Dover.

After this we enjoyed much-needed refreshment and chat, and finally spent some time mulling over various points and raising others.

Mrs Palmer pointed out the LOSS OF STREET SIGNS, particularly on the remains of ancient lanes such as Dolphin Lane and Dieu Stone Lane. Mrs Berry commented on the Catch 22 situation — could we REVIVE THE SHOPS in King Street and Cannon Street before the Heritage Centre opened, or do we rely on the first visitors to force a revival?

Mr Gerrard commented on Eurotunnel's lack of consideration — a cooling tower 40 feet higher than necessary, various engineering faults, and a high ambient noise level.

The necessity for a local CAMP SITE was discussed and the possibility of putting an orchestra in the gallery of the Stone Hall for a concert. Miss Kennedy made a strong attack on the 95p charge for adults, 50p for children, suggested for entry to the new MUSEUM; Councillor Williams defended this, citing the amount visitors would add to the local coffers, thus reducing the Community Charge, but Mrs Palmer pointed that she would not be able to 'pop in' regularly with her children, a privilege thus being denied to our next generation. Philomena Kennedy also asked if Dover would be cut off from its seafront by THE NEW A20. Councillor Williams replied that there would be an underpass at Bench Street and John Gerrard said that he thought there would be a crossing at East Cliff.

Finally Mr Munt offered warm congratulations on the most attractive format, appearance, and content of the NEWSLETTER, and this comment was warmly endorsed by all present.

MAJOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIND 79

IRON AGE SITE DISCOVERED in the ALKHAM VALLEY

WENDY WILLIAMS, M A A I S Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit

A discovery of major importance was made in the Alkham Valley recently when a farmer began clearing land for a barn. It was reported to the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit that scattered pottery and discoloured soil had been spotted and Brian Philp, the Director, was able to organise our local archaeologists to be on site within the hour. With the permission of the landowner, Mr John Ullmann, further investigations were begun.

Archaeological excavation revealed four cremation burials which formed a small, but very select, cemetery, dating from about 50 BC. The burials contained pottery vessels, cremated bone and various other objects. Two of the burials were of outstanding importance because each contained a large wooden bucket beautifully decorated with bronze sheeting and fittings. The burials clearly represent a group of people of high social status living in the Alkham Valley over 2000 years ago.

The largest bucket had handle mounts decorated with superb bronze heads are among the very finest examples of Celtic metalwork ever found. The human faces are almost exactly similar to those on the famous Aylesford bucket found in a Kent gravel pit in 1886. It has taken over 100 years for another such discovery to be made,

The finds from the grave were given emergency first-aid treatment on site. The tow buckets were very fragile. The slatted wooden sides were still in position and these had to be stabilised before being carefully enclosed in tin foil and plaster of Paris. They were then lifted and taken to the British Museum laboratory for urgent treatment. Me Ullmann and his family generously decided to donate the finds to the British Museum to ensure proper treatment.

Replicas of the buckets and the actual pottery from the graves will be on display in the Roman Painted House, New Street, Dover, in 1991. The pottery vessels include a very fine pedestal-urn, which is a form of pre-Roman pottery of the very highest quality.

The discovery of this major site was featured in the archaeology series 'Down to Earth' on Channel 4 television early in December. A feature about how X-ray techniques were used to help determine the contents of the Alkham buckets appeared in the 'New Scientist' in November.



WINE AND WATERWORKS

STAPLE VINEYARD

On the last Saturday in September, having learnt something of the intricacies of Stour Valley viticulture, fifty members and guests became wine tasters for half-an-hour at the Staple Vineyard. Five types of its produce were rolled appreciatively around fifty palates and fifty noses concentrated on the bouquet, passing expert judgement on the relative merits of each. Yes, the apple wine made from local Coxes and Bramleys was clean and fruity, the Müller Thurgaus and Reichensteiner had that extra something, but the Huxelrebe was the most satisfying and full-bodied ... or was it really a matter of individual taste? A few untutored hereticseven preferred the full-strength Elderflower Cordial produced in Surrey! Whatever the verdict the visitors were happy to proceed along the corridor past the bulging vats to the retail department, bearing away their purchases in triumph to the coach, in which could later be heard the tell-tale chink of bottles as the driver negotiated some minor road irregularity or tight bend.

On the tour of the vineyard with farmer and manager, Bill Ash, we had learnt how the deep loam soils of North East Kent, with its maritime climate and relative freedom from late spring frosts, can be suitable for the cultivation of a number of German white grapes as long as alder windbreaks are grown around the fields. The last two hot, sunny summers have been an added bonus to which the valuable 1989 Huxelrebe vintage bears ample testimony with its 13% alcohol content.

Throughout September randoms ampling and crush testing goes on to reveal the fall in acidity which occurs during the last two or three weeks prior to harvesting. Then at the appropriate time, fifteen to twenty pickers from the local villages set to work with their bine snips on the seven acres of vines and the fruit is quickly delivered to the German press





in the winery. (This crushes the grapes mechanically at very high pressure and it is regretted that no generous offers of human trampling can be entertained even if electricity costs do rise.) Fermentation, lasting ten days, should be rapid and this is followed by five months maturation before bottling can take place.

Quality is regulated by the English Vineyard Association which, on the result of tests and records, licenses the grower to use its gold seal label and logo. Annual reapplication is necessary and all English wines must be marketed as table wines. English yields are rising and growers naturally hope that European Community rules will not in future consign a proportion to the wine lake which must be used for alcohol distillation. Quite apart from pleasing the discerning European palate English wine contributes to the UK Exchequer with the duty paid as bottles are taken from the bonded winery warehouse.

Lively interest was also shown in all aspects of wine growing, from the high and low culture systems (methods of training the plants) to the bird scaring devices, of which early morning gun practice by the owner proved to be the most effective (although the electric banger was quite sufficient to startle the human visitors!). Light green netting has apparently proved invaluable in the vineyard next to an orchard from where thrushes and blackbirds are wont to emerge with the express aim of widening their traditional fruit diet. The vines themselves are fortunately long-lived but when replacement is necessary new virus-free stock is bought in from abroad.

82 WINGHAM WELL: THE "EIGHT BELLS".

Our second stop was for a generous and tasty Ploughman's Lunch at the "Eight Bells" at Wingham and the most intrepid of the party were then ready for the perilous descent by ladder (firmly held by Sheila Cope) into the cool, vaulted chalk chamber thirty feet below. Its origin is still in doubt, but its discovery was definitely made when the former pig-styes were removed and the foundations for the present extension laid. Hunger and curiosity thus satisfied we filed back into the coach for the short drive to our next stopping point.

WINGHAM PUMPING STATION.

Only two types of the local product were available for tasting at Southern Water's Wingham Pumping Station — raw and treated — and it is doubtful if even the real connoisseur could tell the difference — so pure is the supply from the North Downs chalk aquifer that only two parts of chlorine per million are necessary.

The three Wingham wells are over one hundred feet deep and are each fed by an adit or tunnel system extending for two miles in each direction. Carried by bulk main to the Fleetereservoir their water provides approximately one third of the daily requirements of the 120,000 population of Thanet, whilst small distribution mains supply local low-lying villages by gravity and the higher ones at present by pumping. When two new reservoirs under construction near Aylesham are complete these villages will receive a gravity supply, the water having been pumped up by night with off-peak electricity. Eighteen other wells and boreholes, together with the River Stour in the spring and early summer, provide the rest of the water for the East Kent supply area.

It is between September and March that most rainwater percolates down into the chalk to be retained there by the underlying Gault Clay, and from April to August most surface water is used by plants or evaporates. Since demand can increase rapidly in a hot, dry spell in summer from an average of 53.5 megalitres (1 megalitre = 500,000 litres) to over 80 megalitres — due mainly to the use of farm irrigation systems and garden sprinklers — it is fortunate that in normal years there is sufficient rain to replenish the underground supplies during the winter.

Electric power has now made obsolete the earlier steam engines in the fine Edwardian Pumping Station with its high roof and stained glass windows and the modern computer-controlled equipment is housed in a functional red-brick building at the rear of the complex. Here a fascinating array of dials records vital information such as the water level in each well and mains source flow and pressure. Emergency generators are available if, for any reason, the local electricity supply were to be interrupted.

It is reassuring to know how careful the company's precautions are to ensure the purity of the water. All reservoirs are covered to prevent pollution and vital equipment is vandalproof. Aluminium sulphate is needed only for River' Stour water in the 'flocc'



The 'business end' of one of the pumps at the Wingham Pumping Station

tank of the Surface Treatment Works and 83 an official is always present when delivery is taken. More than 10,000 samples are taken annually at various points in the supply system and at customers' houses, and all have to meet UK and EEC standards. If ever a slight smell of chlorine or TCP is noticeable it is likely to be due to the small quantity of chlorine reacting with tap washers and certainly not to carelessness on the part of water engineers. Nevertheless customers should not hesitate to ring their water company if they are concerned at any time so that additional checks can be made.

We were indebted to Area Manager Jerry Noble and one of his engineers for

conducting our two groups around the works, providing so much information and answering our barrage of questions so willingly.

SIXTEENTH CENTURY TEA ROOMS, SANDWICH

It was raining by the time the coach reached Sandwich where at the Sixteenth Century Tea Rooms we were served with a delicious cream tea of home-made cakes and scones. Animated conversation meanwhile testified to the success of the whole trip and on the coach afterwards Ken Berry led a resounding vote of thanks to Lin Clackett for arranging such an imaginative day's programme so efficiently.

MAY JONES

THE 'NEW' NEWSLETTER

Many appreciative comments have been made about the 'new' Newsletter with its A5 size and typeset pages. Although a few regrets have been expressed for the cheerfully amateur Mark I version the overwhelming preference of members is for the new format.

SybilStanding wrote 'The tea is just as good but we have exchanged our Oxfam mug for Crown Derby'.

As mentioned in the Editorial of No. 8 we owe the professional appearance of the present Newsletter to Adams Printers and especially to Mr. A. F. (Budge) Adams.

Please continue to give us your opinions, verbally or in writing, on the Newsletter (and on the activities of the Society). And why not make a contribution?

84 DIGGING BY THE DOUR

The River Dour and the Archaeologists

The Dour is regularly on the agenda of the Dover Society Committee meetings. How to keep it clean, how to deal with the supply of plastic bags and empty cans which proliferate in its waters and how we can persuade the District Council to take responsibility for the stream. Members will remember the Sunday when we organised a competition between local pubs to clean out the river. That was just over a year ago. I believe the primary schools have also had a go since, but if you walk along by Pencester Gardens now you would never believe it. On the 28th October, however, many of us had a different view of our rubbish filled stream, made so short of water by the drought that even the ducks could only paddle. A meeting was organised by the District Council to give members of the public a chance to meet Professsor Barry Cunliffe and the members of his advisory team who are concerned with the archaeological possibilities and developments arising from the construction of the Heritage Centre. Also present was Dr John Williams who has just been appointed County Archaeologist for Kent and Drs Tony Barton and Martin Bates who have been surveying the Dour at the behest of Professor Cunliffe and his advisory body. Afteran introduction by Professor Cunliffe, first Dr Barham and then Dr Bates explained the survey of the Dour which they had been conducting for the last month or so and gave an initial assessment of their discoveries during that time. Aware of the presence of many laymen in their audienceboth lecturers were well supplied

with diagrams and examples of borings and did not hesitate to explain the technical jargon involved. Thus we soon discovered that we were not to concern ourselves with happenings of two million years ago (Pleistocene) but would concentrate on the more recent 10,000 to 20,000 years ago of the Holocene period since human habitation lies within this range. The Ice Sheet of some 18,000 years ago did not reach much farther south than the Midlands but the dust from the ice fields was deposited in this area and so contributed to the development of the Dour as we know it.

After Dr Barham's introduction, Dr Bates explained how they had decided to concentrate their investigation on three sections of the Dour. At Crabble Paper Mill they had sunk five boreholes and had also been given permission to dig a trench. This had confirmed the presence of Tufa Gravel from which the Roman Pharos might well have been constructed and also the existence of layers of peat indicating the bed of a channel. The site selected at Buckland also revealed peat and Tufa gravel and the bores taken from both sites seemed promisingly full of pollen, molluscs and pieces of wood. These cores have been sent to London Museum where they will be subjected to tests by experts using modern equipment which will confirm the impressions gained by Drs Bates and Barham in Dover.

The third location on this introductory survey has been in Russell Street where fourlayers of strata proved of great interest.

These are an upper layer of gravel, then chalk rubble, fining sands and a lower layer of gravel. Differences in the shaping of the two layers of gravel indicate that the lower layer was part of a stable beach, possibly the old beach, whilst the upper layer may well be part of a storm beach, deposited almost at one go and, apparently, there was such a storm in the Twelfth Century. The finings sands indicate the presence of an estuary after the sea had moved from the area.

Roman Dover may well have existed on a ridge coming down from the Western Heights to where the Heritage Centre is now and proceeding along Pencester Gardens. On the other side of the valley was the Russell Street area. Large gravel movements have taken place over the last 10,000 years contributing to variations in the drop to the sea level — variations of perhaps a metre since Roman times.

Drs Barham and Bates gave a fascinating description of their work and mentioned the interest of the non-archaeologists in their audience. They also dealt expertly with questions that were asked and finished with an appeal for help and information. Some members of the Dover Society may well be able to respond to their appeal. If anyone involved in the 85 building of hotels, shops, houses etc in Doverover the last 50 years has any records of the contents of the site concerned, especially records made by consultants, architects, builders, and so on, they would welcome the chance to see them. If you have any such records the Society will put you in touch with the archaeologists. Further they said, they had no opposition when asking if they could sink a borehole or investigate an already open trench. So if a knock comes to your door and a request comes to drill in your garden let your pride in Dover prevail and say "Go ahead, please do!"

K. W. BERRY

Dover Archaeological Advisory Board

Professor Barry Cunliffe, European Archaeology, Oxford. Chairman

Professor David Harris, University College, London

Professor Peter Salway, The Open University

Professor Philip Rahtz, Emeritus Professor Archaeology, University of York.

DOVER HARBOUR

Marjorie Wiggins would like to recommend the romantic and historical novel DOVER HARBOUR by THOMAS ARMSTRONG to other members.

The novel is set between 1792 and 1800 when the prospect of an invasion from France was greatly feared. The harbour, not for the first time, was in danger of being choked by the shingle brought up the Channel by south-westerly gales. Smuggling was a very common part-time occupation among the inhabitants.

Fiction is interwoven with fact in the story of the rivalry between two families. Detailed descriptions of the town and port in the late 18th century provide the setting for the lives of these and other characters.

86 FINDING FACES - 1990

WENDY WILLIAMS, MAAIS

Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit

During the 1990 season visitors to the Roman Painted House were treated to demonstrations of the technique of facial reconstruction from skulls. This was thanks mainly to Brian Philp, Director of the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit, who both encouraged and promoted the experiments and also to the Painted House Trust which provided the space necessary for the displays. Both organisations contributed financially. The project was called 'Finding Faces.'

The response from the visiting public was excellent, with many people returning again and again to monitor progress. The project appealed enormously to children, almost 5,000 of whom were given special tasks. Some 1,000 of the children who took part were French, so it was also a very good exercise on international relations! Teachers stressed the value of the children coming face to face with reconstructions of the appearance of REAL Romans, Saxons etc. as an experience which brought history vividly to life. As they hurtled out through the door many a small child was heard to excl;aim "That was brilliant . . . I'm going to be an archaeologist when I grow up!"

In terms of publicity for the Roman Painted House, the project captured the imagination of the media. Excellent coverage was given in newspapers, magazines and on TV and radio both here and in Belgium, France and Holland. In December the project was featured on Radio 4's "Woman's Hour."

THE WORK OF RECONSTRUCTION

First a plaster of Paris copy is prepared from the skull, providing a foundation for the reconstructed tissue. The plaster skull is then studded with carefully measured pegs placed at 21 specific points which show average soft tissue depth. Clay is then used to recreate the major muscles of the face, with more clay being applied over the 'muscles' to bring the fabric of the face up to the level of the tops of the pegs. The underlying 'muscles' help to define the contours of the face, while the measured pegs limit the build-up of soft tissue. (The validity of this technique was demonstrated in 1989 when the reconstructed face of a young murder victim was identified after publication in national newspapers.)

The next stage involves making a mould of the clay sculpture. Plaster of Paris is applied to the head in 12 sections which are then dismantled and reassembled to form a hollow receptacle. This is filled with molten wax to produce the final form. As a final flourish the sculpture is given a life-like appearance with the addition of artificial eyes, wig, eyelashes, etc.

The photograph shows a reconstructed face in wax of a 21-25 year old Romano-British woman. Her remains were excavated by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit in 1974 in a small family burial ground at Northbourne. Her favourite blue and green glass bead necklace and a twisted bronze wire bracelet had been placed on her breast, whilst two pottery vessels, dateable to the third century ad, were found by her right hip.

She suffered from spinal bifida, a congenital deformity which affected her sacrum (the part of the spine which forms the back of the pelvis). This is not a severe manifestation of spinal bifida and was, perhaps, uncomfortable rather than crippling.

She was 5'2" tall and enjoyed excellent regular teeth which must have resulted in an attractive smile. The upper part of her face appears to have been rather pretty with a high forehead, well spaced eyes and a straight, slender nose. Indeed her nasal opening was so narrow that she is likely to have been a rather snuffly individual, habitually breathing through her mouth to reveal her protruding upper teeth, thus spoiling the harmony of her features in repose.

The blond wig is temporary and she should eventually have long midbrownhair which could be interpreted as being either fairer or darker. Eye colour is depicted as hazel. Her Romano-British context need not necessarily imply Mediterranean origin, and indeed her ancestry may have been Celtic.

* The Excavations at Northbourne were published in 1978 in issue No. 52 of the Kent Archaeological Review.

The reconstructed face of a young Romano-British woman from Northbourne.



AN UP-TO-DATE GUIDE TO ITEMS REQUIRED BY LOCAL CHARITIES

(In Dover unless stated otherwise)

Compiled by Anne Mole

ALUMINIUM FOIL AND

WASHED BOTTLE TOPS Oxfam, 41 High Street RSPCA. 47 London Road

BAGS (CLEAN: OF ANY KIND) Sense (Help for Deaf/Blind), 40 High Street

BEADS

Hospice Shop, 75 London Road RSPCA Sense Spastics Shop, 17 Market Square

BUTTONS

Hospice Shop, RSPCA, Spastics' Shop

CARPETS

Sense

CONTAINERS OF ANY KIND (FOR STORAGE) Sense

DRINKS CANS

Greenpeace (St. Margarets)

FOREIGN COINS

Hospice Shop Oxfam RSPCA JEWELLERY RSPCA

MAGAZINES
Hospice Shop
RSPCA

PAPER

St. Margarets Scouts. Please leave weather-proof packages outside Scout Hut in Parish Hall Car Park, Reach Road.

Collected from houses in village, by arrangement, every third Saturday in month.

POSTCARDS

Hospice Shop

STAMPS

Greenpeace (St. Margarets) Oxfam RSPCA Spastics' Shop

GOOD CLEAN CLOTHES,

BRIC-A-BRAC, BOOKS, etc. Welcomed at most charity shops] **CONTACTS:** -at shops unless shown otherwise.

GREENPEACE: Mr & Mrs P. Woodward, 23 Royston Gardens,

St Margarets-at-Cliffe.

HOSPICE SHOP: Mrs Walsh

OXFAM: Mrs Jean Pursey

RSPCA: Mrs Long

SENSE:

SCOUTS: Mr Ivor Disbrey

852532 (home)

SPASTICS 'SHOP: Mrs Danvers

(0634 578954)

Linda Monroe

DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL,

Transfer Station, Honeywood Road, Whitfield. 821199 Ext. 5186.

Mon - Fri: 08.00 - 16.30.

Sat: 08.00 - 16.00.

Sun: 09.00 - 13.00.

Recycling facilities available for metal, newsprint, paper, glass, oil, rags, CFCs, asbestos cement products, cans (must be kept separate)

Telephone for advice on other items or to arrange collection of bulky items.

PLEASE help us to keep this list up-to-date by sending information, by the appropriate deadline, to: Mrs Anne Mole, 72 Priory Hill, Dover. Phone 204107

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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 mostenjoyable 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 newshound shows 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 suitall 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 schoolroom 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 Dovorians. 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

There are Accueil societies in some 600 towns in France. Their main objectives are to welcome and help new-comers and visitors to their area. In Calais for example, many Tunnel workers are newcomers. These include, as here, some Irish workers as well as many other groups, who have gained from the help of the Accueil.

The party was accompanied on a visit to the Castle by French-speaking members of the Dover Society, very

admirably guided by Custodian Patrick Cunningham who was simultaneously and most fluently translated by Danielle Sutton, wife of Vice-President Terry.

The Dover District Council provided a coach and an invitation to a *vin d'honneur* in the Town Hall, presided by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Dover, Councillor Mrs L. D. Young. A number of Council officers were present and noted with interest and warm approval the work of the French Accueil associations. It was an enjoyable and instructive occasion.

LEO WRIGHT

VICE-PRESIDENT TERRY SUTTON, M.B.E.

Congratulations to Terry Sutton, Deputy Editor of the Dover Express and one of our eminent Vice-Presidents, on the m.b.e. awarded to him on the New Year Honours List for services to journalism and Dover.

FRIENDS OF DOVER MUSEUM

Membership £5, husband and wife, £7. Pensioners and unemployed £3

plus 50p per meeting (vioitors £1) New programme begins in April.

All meetings in Council Chamber, Town Hall, at 7.30, unless stated otherwise. (Entrance is through Museum door in Ladywell).

Secretary: Mrs P. Summers, 107 Mongeham Road, Great Mongeham, Deal. CT14 9LJ. Tel: 381699.

Information also available from Mr Harold Sneller, 822807 or (Dover Museum) 201066.

21st February 'DUMPY,' illustrated talk by Mr P. Wyborn-Brown

21st March EAST KENT — THE INDUSTRIAL EDEN. Mr Tilden-Sherring

FREE ADMISSION for Members to the following, when open.

Dover Museum, The Grand Shaft, The Timeball Tower, Deal, The Victoriana Museum, Deal

GOLDENTRIANGLE

Castle Street to the Sea

PART 1

A.F.(B.udge) Adams

The last part of the Golden Triangle that I now attempt to describe is the rectangle defined on the N. and E. sides by the line of the seaward side of the Castle Street houses. Maison Dieu Road from Castle Street to Woolcomber Street (in my boyhood known as Castle Place), Woolcomber Street to Liverpool Street and then almost diagonally via Douro Place to the Castle Jetty - for many years now known much less euphoniously as Boundary Groyne: on the SW side, by New Bridge, Bench Street, King Street and the Market Square. The area is conveniently divided by the line of the original Townwall Street and Clarence Street and its dominant road pattern, NE to SW, is a perpetuation of the area's 16th century road axis: from the Deal road, now Laureston Place via St James's Street and Queen Street to Cowgate. Elizabeth I on her peregrination of Kent is reputed to have entered Dover through Cowgate and then proceeded down a hill later to be known as Queen Street.

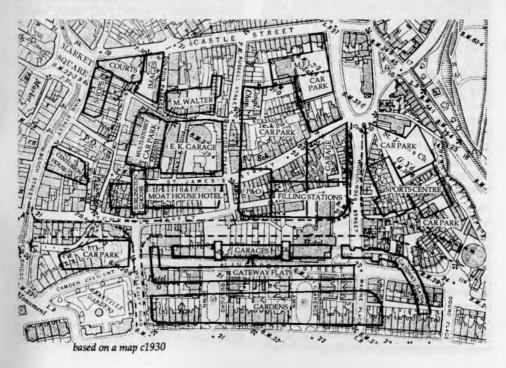
Clockwise from Castle Street, in Castle Place (now embraced in Maison Dieu Road) was the distribution depôt of the British Oxygen Company, extensive premises entirely filling the space between Castle Street and St. James's Street and subsequently taken over by Southern Autos, part of John Dodd's "Southern" empire. (Now, in 1990, occupied by the inelegant M.F.I. building.) The garage's workshops, behind the street frontage, were originally a large malt-house with access from both Golden Cross Passage and Castle Place and belonging, as I recall, to Leney's Phœnix Brewery. Opposite, on the NE side, just into Castle Place,

was the Imperial Photographic Studio, later to become W. Martin's, the electrician's shop and later still a café. Then on the area of the present filling station was the walled garden of Castle Hill House where, at the age of 12, in the loft of a coach-house, a particular friend and I experimented with a packet of 20 Players and I began my career as a heavy smoker (ceasing however, 11 years ago). The garden was eventually built over and occupied by Rowland's wholesale grocery business: later, when the firm moved to St. Radigund's Road, the warehouse was destroyed and replaced by the present filling station. In the now demolished part of the curved wall at the seaward end of the garden was a large stone in which was carved the date "1666", and was reputed to have once marked the site of St. Helen's Gate. or tower, part of the town wall at, approximately, the interface between the Sports Centre and its larger car park. In the latter half of the 18th century, the builders of Castle Hill House, the Stringer family, rescued this stone and caused it to be built into the wall. (When the wall was demolished, as no other person appeared to be interested, I made frantic efforts to obtain custody of the stone Arrangements were made with the architect, the contractors and the secretary of the owners of Castle Hill House, for me to be present at 8.30 on a certain morning to collect and take the stone away for preservation. At 8.30, when I arrived, the bull-dozer had finished its work, the wall was demolished (how similar to the Brook House affair) and I was able to find only three small pieces of the stone: they are still, I hope, under a hedge in my garden. Thus are bits of Dover's history lost for all time.)

Just seaward of this wall, in the centre of an area now much diminished by the entrance to the Sports Centre car park, was an elegant (?) circular cast-iron pissotière surrounded by cast-iron railings and a dense privet hedge. A number



St. James's Street. c1895



94 of people living in the immediate area were concerned that this Victorian relic should be preserved but, alas, it very conven-iently, disappeared (as a result, we were told, of a misunderstanding!) just prior to alterations to the road layout.

The "White Horse" Inn and St. James's Old Church are both in St. James's Street, a reminder of the time when neither Castle Place nor Woolcomber Street existed. Castle Hill Road, often referred to as Castle Hill - which it is not - is comparatively recent, having been built in the 1790's. St. James's Street, ran S.W. from the "White Horse" to St. James's Laneand was, in my youth, still the artery of a lively community. Opposite the still remaining houses, Nos. 5, 7 and 9, at Nos. 4 and 6, were the offices of Stilwell & Harby, the solicitors, who are now in Maison Dieu Road. The lower numbered buildings, and St. James's Rectory, had disappeared many years earlier in two separate stages of road widening. Next to Stilwell's was the shop of Betts, the green grocer which, with two other shops in Woolcomber Street very effectively supplied the area's needs. That is not strictly true because on Tuesdays and Fridays Mr Betts toured the streets with his cart piled high with fruit and vegetables and our parents bought their needs, quite literally, on the doorstep. Every year Mr Betts with his horse and cart were at St. James's Sunday School Treat in Old Park, where now is installed the R.E. Junior Leaders Regiment, and we children were given marvellously long rides at a penny a go.

Next to Betts's shop was Arthur's Place, a narrow lane with a terrace of cottages opposite which was the Assembly Gospel Hall which doubled back and had another entrance a few doors down in St. James's Street. Beyond the Gospel Hall there was a tiny courtyard with three houses, one each side and one facing the entrance. Most of the houses in Arthur's Place were occupied by boatmen, some were entrepreneurs providing the beach

pleasure boats and others formed the crews of the many motor boats that shipped and landed the North Sea Pilots.

Between the Assembly Hall and Fector's Place,— who remembers where that was?—were two or three general shops, a bookbinder, a wholesale stationer, a goodly number of excellent and varied craftsmen and amongst them Mr Cole, previously a lifeboatman — in the days when the lifeboat was an oared vessel — who taught me to sail an Essex One Design and very largely took over the rôle of second father to me and of grandfather to my elder daughter.

On the other side and next to the still existing houses at the top of the street, with Golden Cross Passage between them, was the "Golden Cross" public house and Johnson's most comprehensive general shop. As well as the requirements of our elders Johnson's sold tiger nuts, horse beans, liquorice root, liquorice straps and pipes, catapult elastic, toy pistols and the 'ammunition', -'caps', - for them, water pistols, air gun pellets, marbles, toffee apples and all the other absolute necessities for a young boy's life. Continuing towards the S.W. and next door but one to Johnson's was St. James's Parish Hall, where the awe-inspiring Miss Stratton, previously a missionary in Africa was the Superintendent. Not many doors away was St. James's Girls' School with Miss Clipsham as the Head-mistress, and a little further on was the intersection with Fector's Place and Fox Passage which formed a 'natural break' between the two halves of the street.

Reverting to Golden Cross Passage: half-way along and facing into Russell Place was Golden Cross Cottage with a large gilded cross, about a metre high, planted on the wall above the front door. Beyond Russell Place, in an extension of Golden Cross Passage, was a terrace of small three-floored houses — if one counts the basement, entirely below ground level,

-entered by a steep flight of steps and in most cases used as the living quarters.

Until the recent demolitions the tiny piece of road that led from opposite the "Castle Inn" into the car park was the last remaining vestige of Russell Place but in my time as a boy much went on there. Behind the readily visible 3-storied houses on almost the entire N.W. side there was an "invisible" courtyard with six or seven houses approached by a narrow "tunnel" about a metre wide, apparently bored through the ground floor room of one of the houses and thus that particular room was made very narrow. On the other side was St. James's Parish Gymnasium, the home of the 9th Dover Scouts: for five years I was a member and I learnt so much, Later, as the parish social club, the building was destroyed by a bomb. I have a photograph of the interior after the bombing and amongst the rubble, at a drunken 45°. is one of the billiard tables.

Next, there were four very small cottages, with two ground floor rooms and a tiny bedroom wedged into the roof, then came St. James's Boys' School with a tiny yard attached to it and next to that, and very much larger, was the coal yard of Peter Hawksfield & Sons. Square in the middle of what is now the extension to Russell Street was a house that faced towards Castle Street and in which lived Hawksfield's yard foreman. When that firm moved to Union Quay, Mr James, a coal dealer who had premises at the bottom of Oueen Street, took over the yard and lived in that house.

From the Castle Inn to St Iames's Street the comparatively narrow thoroughfare was, and had been for nearly 200 years, known as Fector's Place. (leading on, through Fox Passage, to Townwall Street). In 1939 it was still lined, on the N.E. side with Fector's warehouses and a building at the corner of Fector's Place and St. James's Street which in the 1890's had housed a velocipede manufacturer, but from 1900 until the early 30's was occu- 95 pied by Peter Hawksfield & Son who, in 1931 or '32, moved into Leney's recently vacated offices at the top of Dolphin Passage. The office in St James's Street was then occupied by the local N.U.M.

Peter Fector was a nephew of Isaac Minet. a Huguenot refugee who, escaping with his family to Dover in 1686 to join other refugee relations already here, built up a thriving shipping and banking business with offices near the Esplanade and, later, on Custom House Quay. Peter Fector, nineteen years old, came from the Low Countries to assist his kinsman and, within a few years, took over complete control of the business, greatly extended it and changed its name to Minet & Fector. He took up residence in Kearsney Abbey and became deeply involved in the town's business, administrative and social life. He married into the Minet family and in 1835 his son, John Minet Fector became the town's Member of Parliament. Connected with that old Dover firm-through the allied interests of Isaac's brothers-the name of Minet is preserved in a London financial institution which today provides funds mainly for the purchase and extension of airline fleets. How tragic that the name of Fector is lost and that of a smalltime property speculator is preserved in its place.

[to be continued

— o0o —

I have once again exceeded my allotted space and failed to achieve my target - to complete the story of the "Golden Triangle." I apologise for a stupid error in the previous instalment. Toward the bottom of page 27 "George II" should, of course, be "George IV."

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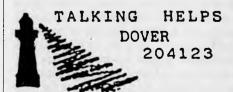
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BINDERS for the new format NEWSLETTER 97

The Society's Committee has examined a specimen of a "Cordex" Binder and has agreed that similar binders should be made available to members. Each will hold 13 copies, enough for four years and a possible index. The illustration shows a binder and the method of inserting copies. The binders are covered in a synthetic material and are washable.

For a minimum collective order of 50 binders the cost, including "Newsletter" attractively blocked in gold on the spine will be £3.50 each. To safeguard the Society's finances, orders will be retained until at least 50 copies are required. The binders will then be ordered, will be ready in about one month and will be available for collection on payment from an office reasonably near the town centre. Members will be advised when the binders are ready.

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The'Cordex' Binder

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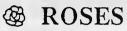
If you are interested, take your copies to 24 Castle Avenue, after phoning 208008 to see if he is "in," and arrangements will then be made for their return to you.

My own copies have been secured in this way and I recommend the process to the membership.

Seorge Lock

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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, archaeology, 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 the parishes or wards of Barton, Buckland, Castle, Lydden, Temple Ewell, Maxton, Pineham, Priory, River, St. Margarets-at-Cliffe, St. Radigund's, Town and Pier and Tower Hamlets.

Members receive three *Newsletters* a year and in each year the Committee organises about ten interesting events – talks, tours, visits, a Members' Meeting, a Christmas Feast, etc.

The Society gives Awards for improvements to the area, monitors planning proposals and supports, joins in or initiates civic projects and arts events.

PROGRAMME

JANUARY Dover Harbour Board Hall, Slip Passage, off Cambridge Road.
Monday, 21st THE MODERN DEVELOPMENT OF DOVER HARBOUR

7.30 Another fascinating illustrated talk by John Gerrard

MEMBERS ONLY

FEBRUARY St Mary's Parish Centre, Cannon Street (Parking in adjacent

Monday, 4th Stembrook Car Park)
7.30 SAVE OUR SEWAGE!
DETAILS ON PAGE 65

OPEN MEETING

FEBRUARY St Mary's Parish Centre Monday, 25th WINE and WISDOM

An enjoyable evening of quizzes and refreshments

Application Slip: loose insert in this copy.

MEMBERS & GUESTS

APRIL St Mary's Parish Centre

Monday, 8th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30 John Peverley, Chief Planning Officer, Poole

OPEN MEETING

APRIL Dover Town Hall

Saturday, 20th CONCERT BY PRIMAVERA

7.30 A return of this popular orchestra at the invitation of the Dover

Society. Priority booking for members, see Application Slip: loose

insert in this copy.

Details of the following will be given later.

MAY The Bay Museum, Beach Road, St. Margaret's Bay

Friday, 24th CONVIVIALITY & CONUNDRUMS

MEMBERS ONLY

7 for 7.30

JUNE VISIT TO FINCHCOCKS, GOUDHURST, KENT

Date to be Superb collection of historic keyboard instruments displayed and

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MEMBERS & GUESTS

SEPTEMBER VISIT TO WYE COLLEGE

Saturday, 7th Interesting buildings and grounds of Agricultural School of

University of London.

MEMBERS & GUESTS

OCTOBER St Mary's Parish Centre

Monday, 14th

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS — OPEN MEETING

NOVEMBER St. Mary's Parish Centre Monday, 25th MEMBERS' MEETING

MEMBERS ONLY

7.30

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS FEAST: MEMBERS & GUESTS



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