



DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL'S Arts and Special Events Programme for 1996 is centred around the theme 'Spirit of the Sea', chosen to reflect the celebrations and anniversaries of the year.

The Festival of Dover is now in its fifth year and has established itself as an annual celebration promoting hundreds of activities. Local involvement has grown extensively with community groups and clubs eager to be part of this major event.

The programme, a balance of popular culture and traditional arts, will provide something for everyone and for this fifth anniversary includes some activities in Deal, Sandwich and the rural areas.

● **The Dover Maritime Show - Maritime '96 23-27 May, Dover Marina**

A new major event aimed at visitors from a wide area including nearby Europe. There will be a wide variety of vessels in the Marina and entertainments, arts and crafts on dry land.

● **Festival Europe Day - Sat. 25 May**

The Festival opens with the true spirit of the sea and the links across the Channel. The children's French Theatre production "Attrape Couleurs" will be staged in Deal, followed by "Henry VIII and the Field of Cloth of Gold" by Luc Tassart, Director of Boulogne Tourism. Crabble Corn Mill will host an exhibition of French artists

and the Junior Library will be host to a special exhibition of "Asterix from the wonderful land of Gaul".

● **Teddy Bears Pirate Picnic- Bank Holiday Monday, 27 May - Kearsney Abbey**

A traditional fun day out, with Punch and Judy, Teddy Bears competitions, deck games modelboat displays, Postman Pat's Road Train, Honey demonstrations and a special appearance of Singapore Dancers.

● **Jolly Roger Fun Day - Wednesday, 29 May - Dover Town Centre**

Half-term Fun Day of pirates and maritime activities. Free entertainment, music, street theatre, story telling, competitions and free entry to White Cliffs Experience for all young pirates!

● **Cinema 100 Celebrations**

Recognising this Centenary, the Silver Screen Cinema hosts a series of Saturday morning picture shows for young people. The Dover Film Society has a classic film evening at The Empire, Sandwich. Special £1 entry to all cinemas on 2 June.

● **"The Tempest" by Kent Shakespeare Project, 6th - 8th June - Prince of Wales Pier**

This open air production by a local theatre group will be followed by a firework display to crown the final Festival evening.

A full Festival Programme, including highlights of the 'Spirit of the Sea' 1996 events taking place up to the end of September will be available from late April at all local outlets

From 1st May tickets will be on sale at the Box Offices at Dover and Deal Tourist Information Centres.

You may register for an advance copy of the programme by ringing the Festival Hotline on 01304 375192.