

## *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. Radigund's, Town & Pier and Tower Hamlets.

All members receive three Newsletters a year and in each year the Committee organises about ten interesting events – talks, tours, visits, Members' Meetings and usually a Christmas Feast.

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

## Editorial

On 24th April, 2000, the Dover Society held its twelfth Annual General Meeting, reported here by Lesley Gordon. There were a few changes to the Executive Committee, with John Owen and Sybil Standing retiring and the creation of two new members, Mr. Barry Late and Mrs. Audrey Wood. After the Chairman's speech and the Treasurer's report, four committee members gave individual reports and the President, Brigadier Atherton, presented pictures to the two retiring members.

The speaker after the interval was Donald Sykes from Wye College, who presented a fascinating slide show and film of the Zeebrugge Raid of 1918. Mr. Sykes later visited Dover for the St. George's Day ceremonies and sent me some photographs taken on the day.

Sheila Cope and Terry Sutton report on the progress of the Society's Millennium Project to place ten historic plaques in the town. Four are in place with six more to come.

Included in this issue are reports of the March Meeting and of the May outing to Loseley Park and Gardens. Application forms are enclosed for the September trip to France and for the Christmas Feast on 16th December. Please also note the announcement of a trip to Zeebrugge, organised by the Dover Town Council ( see page 31) and telephone Joan Liggett if you are interested in joining it.

The next indoor meeting of the Society will be on Monday, October 16th, when Derek Leach will be talking about " The Secret Treaties of Dover". At this meeting the second half of the evening will be devoted to a brain-storming session , when members will be invited to give their own opinions and ideas on local issues and to help with future planning of the programme. We try to hold one such session every year and hope many members will be able to take part, as we find this an invaluable aid to the committee members who organise the annual programme.

The rest of the social programme appears, as usual on the inside back cover of this issue.

The last few months have been eventful ones

for Dover with so much happening in the town that it has been difficult for residents to keep up with the programme of events and decide which ones to attend. These have included all those associated with the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Evacuation of Dunkirk, those organised for the Art and Soul festival and additional attractions presented by the Town Management Centre.

The departure, for the last time, of the convoy of little ships to Dunkirk brought crowds of visitors to the town to see the collection of boats assembled in Granville Dock and the outer harbour ready to sail on Thursday, June 1st. When unfavourable weather delayed their departure for twenty-four hours, even more visitors flocked into the town and HMS Somerset, moored at the Prince of Wales Pier, ready to escort the convoy, was open to the public for the day. When the 62 little ships finally sailed on the morning of June 2nd, crowds thronged the pier to see them off.

Once again thanks are due to many of our regular contributors. Jack Woolford

has reported on the KFAS conference as well as his regular planning report. Esme McConnell has written a review of the Art and Soul festival, Jon Iveson has another contribution to his series on Dover fortifications and Ivan Green's latest article is about lost villages near Dover. We have a second article from Christopher Burrows for his Ferry Focus.

We have three new contributors writing in this issue. Michael Hinton has covered the March meeting, Tessa George the visit to Losely Park and, from the White Cliffs Countryside Project, Jason Ball, has sent us an article entitled "Turning the Coalfields Green". It is always good to welcome new writers.

In addition Tessa George has written a report on her visits to the new restaurant at Wellington Dock. It is called Cullins Yard and has a great location overlooking the marina, with tables inside and out and live jazz on Sunday evenings. What a good idea to write about places to eat in Dover! Could we start a series?

Thanks, as ever, to all our advertisers and distributors and to all our readers

*Editor*

## DEADLINE for contributions

The last date for the receipt of copy for issue 38 will be Monday 9th October 2000.

The Editor welcomes contributions and interesting drawings or photographs. "Paper copy" should be typed at double spacing. Handwritten copy should be clear with wide line spacing. Accurate fully proof-read copy on computer discs is acceptable; please ring 01304 205254 to discuss details.

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