

PROJECTS : *Update*

HUGH GORDON, Projects Co-ordinator

At present, there is only one project under way. This is the Cowgate Cemetery task, which we have undertaken under the auspices of The White Cliffs Countryside Project. (WCCP)

Thanks are due to Barry Late, for setting up the initial contacts and, very ably, producing lists of volunteers, with dates and times for the teams to meet and carry out clearance of the areas allocated to us.

Initially, we are to cut the dry grass down and clear away some of the ivy and self seeded scrub. This may be a somewhat delicate task, as many of the bushes are supporting gravestones. This will last until about the beginning of June, when the grass will be allowed to grow to make hay. We will continue with removing and cutting back the scrub and overhanging branches. The intention is to retain the very attractive yew and holly trees, and get rid of all the out of control 'spindles', ash, sycamore, etc.

As can be seen, this project will continue for the foreseeable future, so volunteers will always be welcome. Own 'non-powered' tools will be needed,

although WCCP can supply some.

The work takes place between the hours of 09.30 and 12.00 hours on both the second Thursday and the third Saturday of each month. The start was

delayed by the foot and mouth outbreak, but we have achieved two sessions in April, and by the time this goes to press, there should have been four more in May and June.

In conjunction with the clearance, we hope to try to record and identify the graves and gravestones. Some of the stones are very badly eroded, and we would like to record the epitaphs and dates, before they become illegible. To this end, Lesley Gordon is forming a team, for which she already has several volunteers. She has established that there are burial registers available, which should assist us in mapping those graves which have already been recorded, and provide a starting point from which to identify the more interesting burials. Again volunteers are always welcome.

As many of you will be aware, The Society has its own website, with an e-mail facility, so if anyone is of a mind to use it in order to volunteer, the address is:

<http://stop.at/TheDoverSociety>

(The inbox will be regularly visited by the site managers).

Dover Transport Museum Society

The East Kent area has a rich transport and industrial heritage. For well over twenty years now, a number of enthusiastic people have been attempting to establish a museum that portrays that heritage. Sadly finding a safe and permanent 'home' has not been easy, indeed we have roamed around the town of Dover a bit! In recent years we have been established on a site that is part of the former army premises at Old Park, now known as the White Cliffs Business Park. We are almost in a position to purchase that site, just a few thousand pounds short of the total amount needed.

We are very excited at the prospect of being able to provide Dover with another attraction, as well as preserving so many important artifacts for the generations to come. We invite readers to visit us and see for themselves something of the work we are seeking to do. Donations of money, or artifacts, are always welcome. We are open, during the period April to October, from 1300 to 1700 hours, Wednesday to Saturday inclusive, and Sundays from 1000 to 1700. Admission prices are £2 adults, £1.50 senior citizens and £1 children. Group visits at other times can be arranged. Telephone enquiries can be made either on 01304 822409 or 206613