

The hotel closed in the 1920s and was eventually converted into flats so that in early 1930s the building was known as Burlington Mansions.

By the time the Second World War arrived, much of the building had been turned into flats. People were still living there in 1940 when, as one resident told me, they looked out of their windows one day to see scores of ships arriving. It was the Dunkirk Evacuation.

But the days of the once proud Burlington were numbered. No doubt because of its size it was hit four times by bombs and at least a couple of times by shells fired from the French coast. One resident, Dover butcher Albert Decort, once told me of his bizarre experience during a raid. He was sitting on the toilet in his flat at The

Burlington when it was hit by a missile. The floor gave way and, he explained, he was left hanging for dear life on the pipe work of the lavatory cistern. After that he and the remaining tenants moved out but not before three people living there were killed. And so, at the end of the war, The Burlington remained a forlorn wreck with no one expecting it to be rebuilt and I watched as, over the weeks, demolition gang brought down what remained of the building and cleared the site.

Today, nearly 70 years after the empty hotel's demolition, the site is being prepared for a brand new budget-style hotel where the clientèle will no doubt be considerably different from the wealthy who once spent their holidays at The Burlington.

## Latest Dover Society Plaque Dr Reginald Koettlitz

— Alan Lee —

**A**t 10am on Monday 5th December 2016 a ceremony took place to mark the installation of the latest Dover Society blue plaque. This was in recognition of Dr

Reginald Koettlitz, a day boy at Dover College 1873-76, a Dover resident and arctic explorer. The plaque is installed at the old Gatehouse, Folkestone Road entrance to Dover College.



*left Gareth Doodles Head of Dover College with AA Gus Jones  
Old Gatehouse Dover College 5th Dec 2016*

Our Chairman Derek Leach, the Headmaster of Dover College Gareth Doodles and Gus Jones all gave short speeches before the plaque was unveiled. A bouquet of roses was presented to Ann Jones nee Koettlitz.

The Dover Society would like to thank John Hall for his work on installing the plaque in its present position for which he did not accept any payment. We are truly grateful.