## British Listed Buildings Website

## Janet Dagys

Dover Society Refurbishment Committee

The British Listed Buildings website at https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/ is an online database of buildings and structures that are listed as being of special architectural and historic interest. There are just under 500,000 buildings in the UK to which this applies. This website is entirely user supported and viewers are encouraged to take part in the Photography Challenge by taking and posting photographs of buildings that lack a photograph.

I found that the easiest way to search for listed buildings in a specific area was to enter the town or village name in the search window, for example, 'Dover' and then to click on the location link which was 'Dover, Kent.' When the location 'Dover Kent' is clicked, a list of all the listed buildings in Dover with links is displayed and a Google Streetview map with each listed building location indicated.

Clicking on an individual listed building link brings up a webpage for that building with its official listing data, location on a map in Google Streetview and in some cases, a current photograph.

For a building to be included on the list, it must be a man-made structure that survives in something at least approaching its original state. All buildings built before 1700 which survive in anything like their original condition are listed, as are most of those built between 1700 and 1840. The criteria become tighter with time, so that post-1945 buildings have to be exceptionally important to be listed.

A listed building may not be demolished, extended, or altered without special permission from the local planning authority, though an exemption is provided for some church buildings in current use.

There are three types of listed status for buildings in England and Wales:

Grade I: buildings of exceptional interest, sometimes considered to be internationally important (2.5% of listed buildings)

Grade II\*: particularly important buildings of more than special interest (5.5% of listed buildings)

Grade II: buildings of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve them (92% of all listed buildings and the most likely grade of listing for a private residential building)

Dover has 135 listed buildings, four of which are Grade I (Dover Castle, Church of St. Mary Castro, Roman Pharos, Maison Dieu Hall), 10 of which are Grade II\* (Church of St Andrew in Buckland, Church of St Peter and St Paul, People of Dover War Memorial, Castle Hill House, Library at Dover College, Ruins of Cloisters to west of Refectory at Dover College, School Hall at Dover College, School Chapel at Dover College, St Edmund's Chapel, Church of St Mary) and 121 Grade II.

Guston has 19 listed buildings, one of which is Grade II\* (Church of St. Martin of Tours) and 18 Grade II most of which are at the Duke of York's Royal Military School.

Hougham has 14 listed buildings, three of

which are Grade II\* (St. Radegund's Abbey) and 11 Grade II.

Langdon has 14 listed buildings, four of which are Grade II\* (Barn About 20 Metres North East of Jossenblock, Jossenblock, Langdon Abbey, Church of St. Augustine) and 10 Grade II.

River has 17 listed buildings, one of which is Grade II\* (Crabble Mill) and 16 Grade II.

St. Margaret's has 34 listed buildings, one of which is Grade I (Church of St Margaret), four of which are Grade II\* (Transmitter Tower (tower 2), Transmitter site at former Swingate Chain Home Radar Station, Church of St. Peter, Dover Patrol Monument, Wallet's Court) and 29 Grade II.

Temple Ewell has five listed buildings, one of which is Grade II\* (Church of St Peter and St Paul) and four Grade II.

Whitfield has six listed buildings, one of which is Grade II\* (Church of St Peter 1) and five Grade II

I found it very interesting to view the British Listed Buildings website and to visit the listing buildings in Dover and surrounding areas. I now have a much greater appreciation for how important it is to conserve them.

Perhaps Dover Society members could join the British Listed Buildings Website Photo Challenge and take & post photographs of listed buildings in the Dover area which currently lack a photograph.

## **National Open Garden Scheme**

**Deborah Gasking** 

 $F^{\rm or}$  some reason, this was cut off from last month's newsletter. So here you go:

For the very first time, Dover will be displaying a set of gardens this year – including mine . . .

But, fabulously, our Morrisons Garden will be highlighted as a community garden and indicated on the map showing where the gardens are. Conveniently, it nestles along the route between a garden in Guston and mine so visitors can easily park and wander alongside it.

This year there are four gardens, but if anyone has a garden, or knows someone who does, that could be included next year, then we could have a bumper crop to display what Dover can achieve.

Either get in touch with the Open Garden Scheme or drop me a line.



Open Gardens Sandwich