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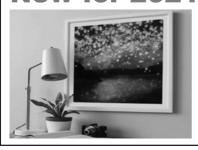
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### **Annual Zeebrugge Raid Commemorations**

### **Terry Sutton**

F or the first time in more than one hundred years the annual Zeebrugge Raid parade and service will not be held at St James' cemetery where heroes of the 1918 Raid are buried.

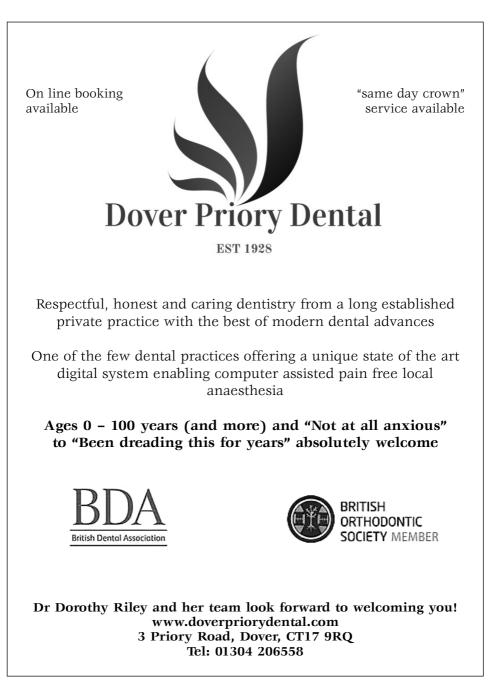
Instead, the traditional organisers of the annual event, Dover Town Council, has decided to commemorate the 104th anniversary of the Raid at the town's main war memorial in Biggin Street at 11.55 am on April 23.

A spokesman for the council explains: "Arrangements this year are different from previous years owing to the restrictions still in place for our Belgian (Zeebrugge) colleagues and the duty of care for our townsfolk and our own staff."

Traditionally the mayor has at midday on April 23 sounded the Zeebrugge Bell from the town hall balcony. But with the redevelopment work being carried out at the town hall this will not be possible this year. Instead, the mayor will ring the bell below the balcony at midday.

The Zeebrugge Raid, carried out by Royal Marines and members of the Royal Navy, set off on their daring exploit from Dover while many of those who took part were trained at Deal.





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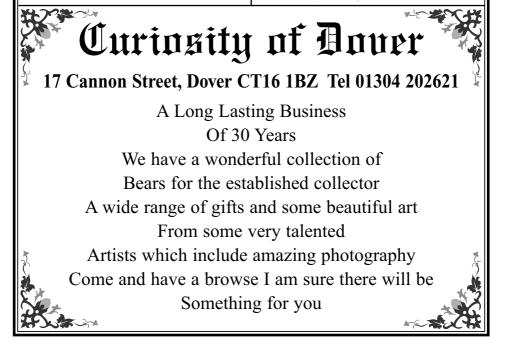
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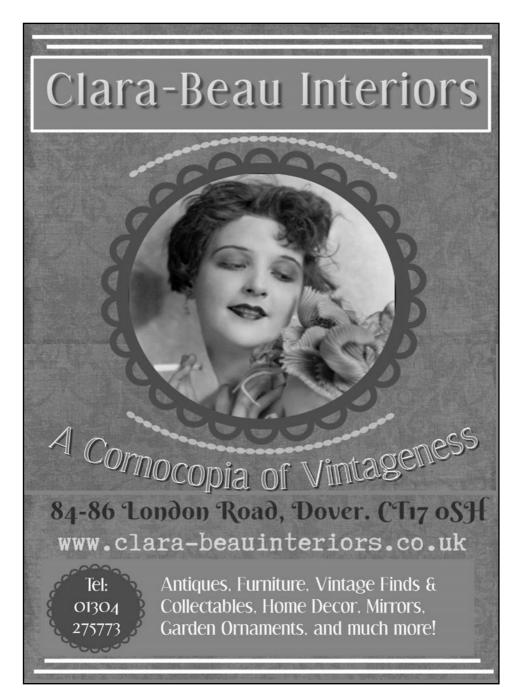
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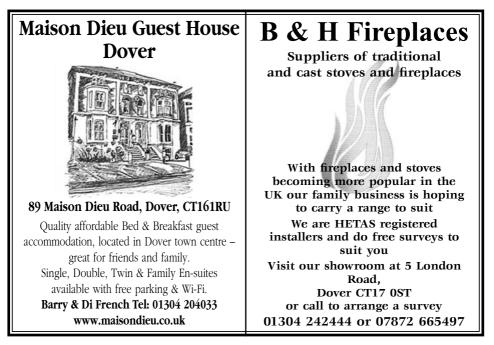




**Discovery Centre:** The Dover Discovery Centre was built in the late 1980s and closed as a visitor attraction in 1999. It currently houses the museum, library, the Roundhouse Theatre, an education centre, the Registry Office, and other ancillary rooms. A plan Involves "the relocation of the Children's Services Team and provision for The Good Day Programme to the site, redevelopment of the library and adult education offering, with improved public access, and opportunity for an improved coordinated service, as well as bringing higher footfall to the town centre. The scheme also improves public access to both the archaeology which sits below the building, the external ruins of the St. Martin's Le Grand Church and the Classis Britannica Fort. The proposals have provided an opportunity to incorporate the provision of a walk-in archive facility and education room within the Dover District Council owned area, which provides an opportunity to colocate the Dover District Council and Kent County Council local studies archive within one single space. The proposed archive facility will provide improved facilities for those undertaking local studies research and allow enhanced access to the extensive artefacts and ephemera held by the Museum." The scheme will cost over seven million pounds. One casualty to the project will be the Roundhouse Theatre which will be lost and although DDC claim to be assisting drama groups to relocate elsewhere, it is hard to imagine how that will succeed.

On the positive side, making the important archaeology accessible to the public is to be welcomed since so much of the town's priceless history has been destroyed or remains buried.

May I wish you all a very belated Happy New Year as we look forward to a progressive return to some sort of normality.



#### Which could also influence

Fungi can break down some of our planet's most stubborn substances such as rock, crude oil, polyurethane plastics, and explosive TNT. Chernobyl, site of the nuclear disaster, is home to a large population of fungi, some of which actively grow towards radioactive particles, appearing to harness the radiation.

#### Other clever stuff

Some fruiting bodies, like the shaggy ink cap mushroom, can push through asphalt and lift heavy paving slabs. Some varieties of mycelium conduct waves of electricity.

#### And so, back to where we started

What can be used to filter polluted water, including removing heavy metals? A Finnish firm use this approach to reclaim gold from electronic waste!

What are used in a Danish harbour to mop up fuel spills?

What have African termites been using in their nine metre high mounds for over twenty million years to decompose wood for them to eat?

They induce visions, produce food, and make medicines.

They grow building material and textiles that are lightweight, water-resistant and fire retardant to, replace plastics and leather.

And what species remains more than 90% undocumented?



Shaggy Ink Cap Mushroom





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