

the art of queueing, and when the trams all arrived together a great melée ensued. The Maxton people could get off at both ends of theirs, but as some of them rushed across to catch the Pier transport they passed the stream from the Buckland one; the most exciting scrum was outside Murdoch's. The waiting crowd immediately pushed to the middle of the road round the step, effectively blocking the descent of those who wished to rush across the road to go to Maxton - or even to get on with their shopping in time for the next tram back. Very soon the conductor pulled the wire string that rang the bell - ding ding - we all got out our old penny (halfpenny for children) and peace reigned for another ten minutes.

Would you like to come on a ride with me from the Centre of the Universe to the Packet Yard? If so, see our next issue.

*Lillian Kay (one of our Vice-Presidents)*

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## \* Listed Buildings - your suggestions requested

A study is being undertaken by the Planning Sub-Committee to look at buildings of interest in Dover. Its aim is to identify buildings which are notable and worthy of protection and, conversely, those which stand on sites more suitable for redevelopment.

Your suggestions and comments will be very welcome. Please send them to Adrian Galley, 3 Wellington Court, Dover Road, Walmer, Deal CT14 7JP (Telephone 368348).

(The current list may be seen at Dover District Council Offices at Whitfield).

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## FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF DOVER

I passed through Dover in 1976 on a wet, cold, stormy day. The ferry was delayed and I ventured out from the Western Docks to explore. My first impression was of a grey, bleak, rainswept seafront, enormous road signs to help you leave and the total absence of information, welcome, shops, or refreshments, if you wanted to stay! I retreated to the boat. Little did I think that in less than twelve months I should be living there - or at least in River.

Yet in 1977 as I drove down Jubilee Way on a fine day, the blue sky, the sun on the sea and the White Cliffs created an unforgettable impression. To go along the front and back towards the Castle soaring above, remained one of my favourite diversions, while the cliffs and the sea always combined to put things in perspective. With such natural advantages Dover should surely be a magnet to visitors.

As I got to know the town there were other favourite spots - Castle St, of course; the Regency terraces, many with the original balconies; the parks and gardens; even a viewing gap through the Gateway. And there were some disappointments, notably the neglect of the potentially splendid Market Hall; the dreadful litter and the peeling paint; the empty shops and characterless new building; and the apparent lack of pride in such a great heritage. Yet there were so many exceptions, with good local books, the splendid "Then and Now" slides, the archival annual films - so much material and so many people with affection for and pride in the town.